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### GOP investigator shows video of Clinton lying

By LARRY MARGASAK

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chief Republican investigator for the US House impeachment inquiry told legislators yesterday that President Bill Clinton had "repeatedly lied" and left them with the "sorrowful duty" of removing him from office.

To make his case, investigative counsel David Schippers played videotaped excerpts, never before seen in public, of Clinton denying under oath he had an affair with Monica Lewinsky.

Schippers and his Democratic counterpart, Abbe Lowell, offered divergent portraits of Clinton and the evidence against him as the two delivered final arguments before the House Judiciary Committee votes on four articles of impeachment.

Lowell pleaded with Republicans to give "second thought" to impeachment and chided Republicans for "going out of their way" to oust Clinton on evidence unworthy of impeachment.

"Impeachment is not a means to punish the president," Lowell said. "Impeachment is not a means to send a message to our children that the president is not above the law. There are better ways to do that."

Schippers scoffed at Democratic arguments the case does not warrant impeachment.

"This is not about sex or private conduct," he said. "It is about multiple obstructions of justice, perjury, false and misleading statements, witness tampering and abuses of power."

See VIDEO, Page 2

## Council revokes Covenant clauses

'Unless PNC votes on Monday,  
this is not enough,' says Bar-Ilan

By DANNA HARMAN

Despite Israel's accusations that he is violating every section of the Wye agreement, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday convened the Palestinian Central Council — as scheduled — and revoked clauses of the Palestinian Covenant calling for Israel's destruction.

One hundred and five of the 124 members of the Palestinian Central Council convened — for the first time in years — at Arafat's seaside headquarters. Eighty-one voted to approve Arafat's letter to President Bill Clinton concerning the Covenant, seven voted against, and the rest abstained. The process of nullification, in their mind, is now formally over.

Not so for the government, which sees the council vote as an interim step to be followed by a vote in the larger Palestinian National Council gathering in Gaza on Monday.

The government took note of the vote, but said that the nullification process is far from complete. "Unless the PNC votes on Monday, we will not consider it a rejection of the Covenant," said Netanyahu's communication's director David Bar-Ilan.

Netanyahu said that he would assess the PNC meeting himself, and would not be swayed by the US impressions of it. "We have no fear of American pressure or an attempt to force a solution on us," he told an Editors' committee lunch in Tel Aviv. "President

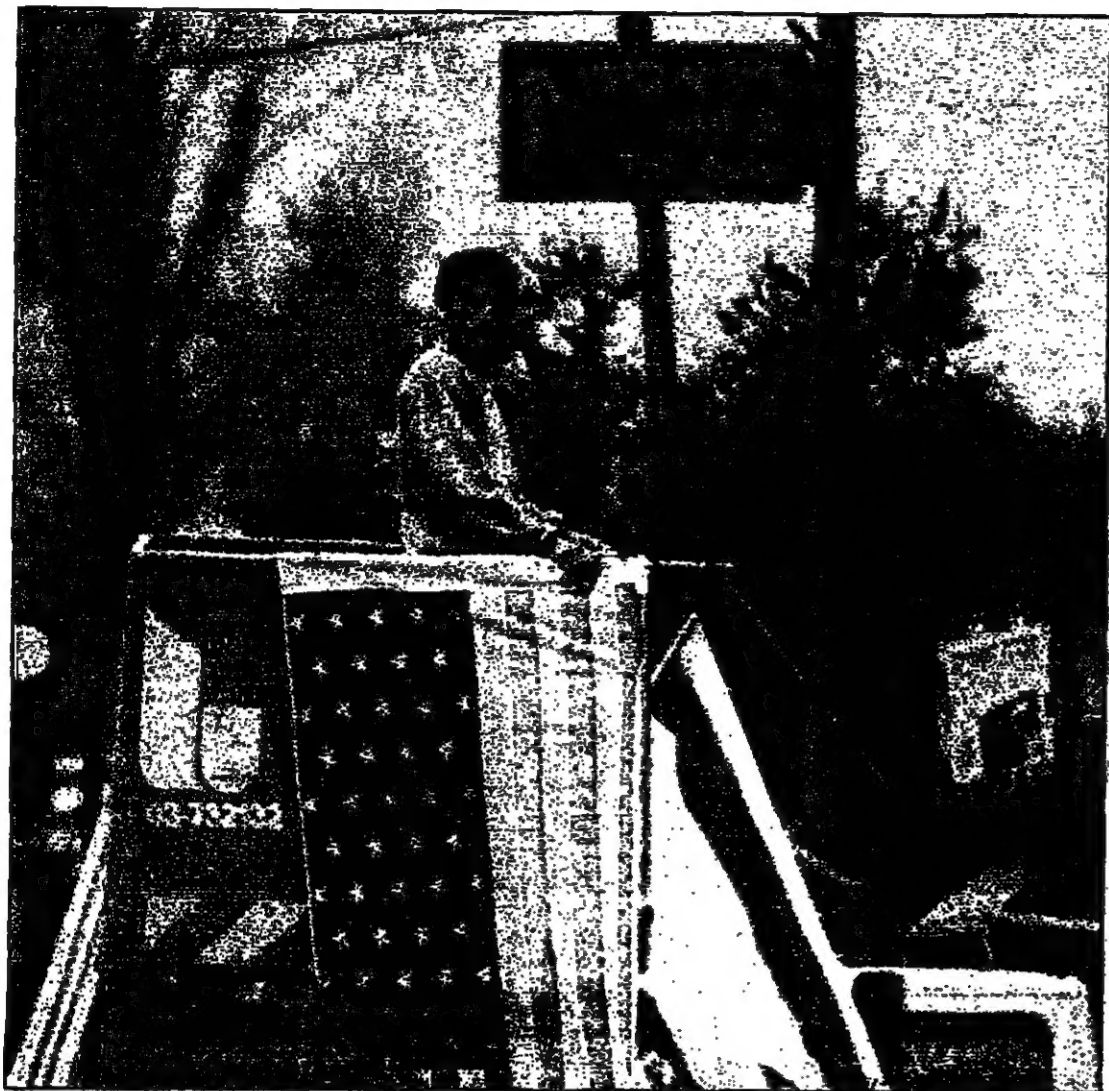
called for this purpose."

Since the invitations to Gaza did not specify that it was to be a special voting session, and since Netanyahu has already implicitly agreed to accept a simple majority, and not a two-thirds vote, the process is already legally flawed. This can be finessed, as long as the government is able to point to a strong symbolic act of nullification — in other words a vote.

The Palestinians insist that no vote is called for and no vote will take place. In the Wye accord, the word "vote" is not actually mentioned in connection with the PNC meeting, but rather only the word "reaffirmation." There are no guidelines as to how such a reaffirmation would be manifested.

Following yesterday's vote, PNC Speaker Salim Za'atout said outright that the PNC session would convene "only to listen to President Clinton's speech and President Arafat... there will be no vote."

See COVENANT, Page 2



US and Israeli flags go up along streets in downtown Jerusalem yesterday.

(AP)

### A Vital Message

To: President Clinton,  
Bibi Netanyahu, and  
All the Members of  
The Israeli Knesset

From: David Ben-Gurion

No Jew has the right to yield the rights of the Jewish people in Israel.

No Jew has the authority to do so. No Jewish body has the authority to do so.

Not even the entire Jewish people alive today has the authority to yield any part of Israel.

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Even if Jews in a specific period proclaim they are relinquishing this right, they have neither the power nor the authority to deny this right to future generations. No concession of this type is binding or obligates the Jewish people.

Our right to the country — to the entire country — exists as an eternal right, and until the full and completed redemption is realized, we shall not yield our historic right.

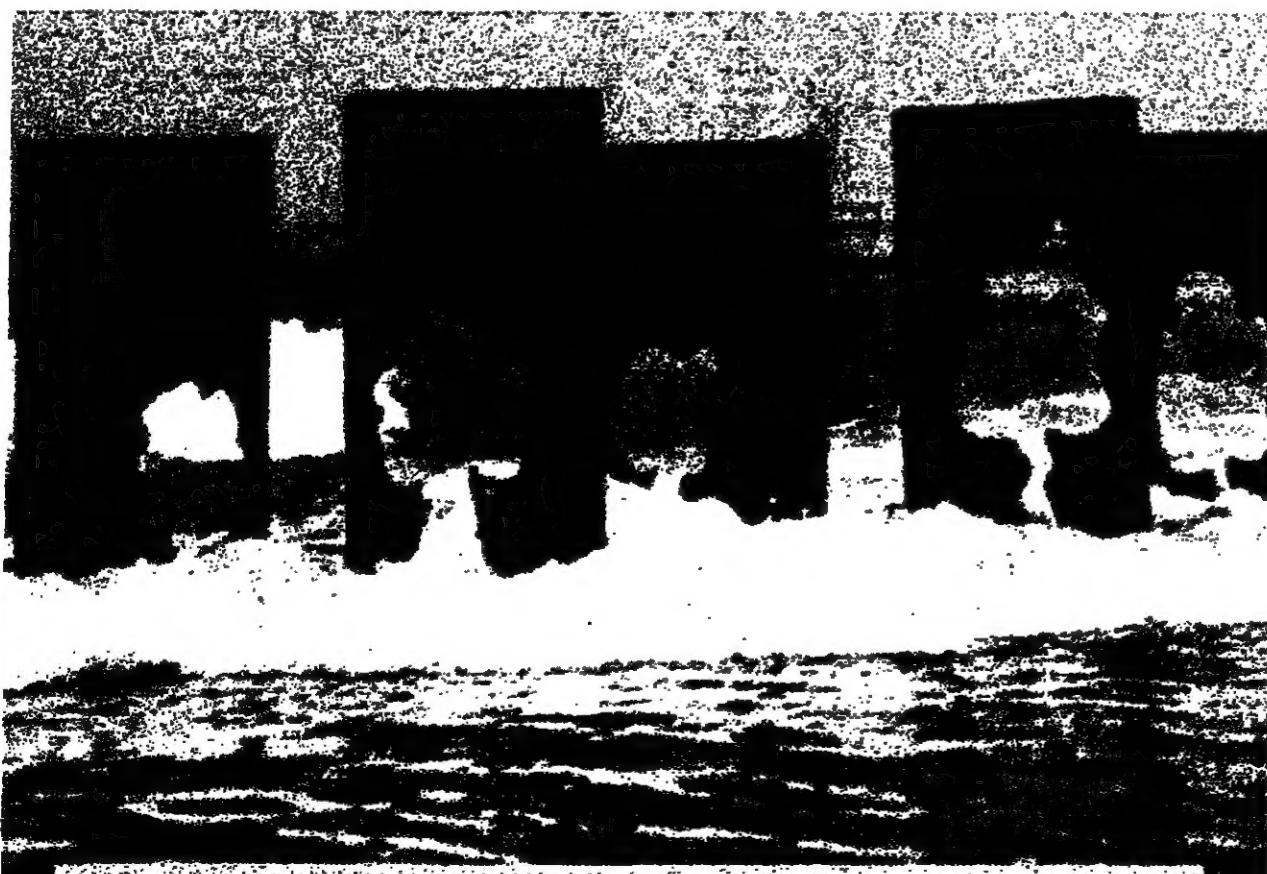
David Ben-Gurion  
(Basic Zionist Congress, 1937)

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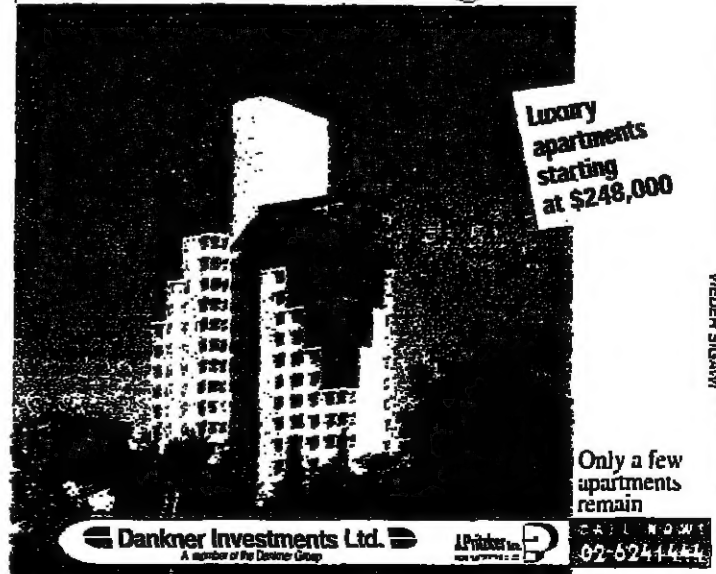
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# NEWS

in brief

## Baby receives new liver

A one-year-old baby boy from Ashdod who has suffered from irreversible blockage in his liver almost since birth received a new one from his mother at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem. His 28-year-old mother underwent surgery to remove a section of her liver, which was suited to the baby. He was the youngest Israeli to receive part of a liver from a live donor, finding an organ from a cadaver of such an age is nearly impossible. The operating team was headed by Dr. Oded Yurim. Both the mother, whose liver will grow to its normal size within weeks, and baby were recovering last night. *Judy Siegel*

## Iran denies recruiting Russian scientists

MOSCOW (AP) — Iran's Embassy denied yesterday a report that it has actively recruited Russian scientists who previously worked on Russia's germ warfare program.

The *New York Times* reported Tuesday that Iran had successfully lured five Russian scientists, and was trying to attract more, from research centers in Russia and Kazakhstan.

The Iranian Embassy said that its government "has not [tried] and will not try under any circumstances to get access to such types of (biological) arms." Iran is conducting peaceful biological research programs that are "directed at combating AIDS and lung diseases, tuberculosis in particular," the statement added.

## Family travel to Syria for son's funeral

The interior ministry yesterday gave special authorization for the Mondir family, from Ein Qunya village, on the Golan Heights, to travel to Syria. They are to take part in the funeral of their son, who was killed there in a traffic accident.

Their son went to Syria more than a year ago for the purposes of study. He was killed on Tuesday. His family were informed of the death by relatives in Syria, who also recommended that he be buried there. The family requested permission to go to Syria from the population registry in Afula. Authorization was given once all security considerations had been checked. The family are to leave for Syria this morning via Kuneitra. *lim*

## Patriot exercise to be held

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The US military is sending a small number of Patriot missiles here for brief exercises during President Bill Clinton's visit, the Pentagon said yesterday.

Defense Department spokesman Ken Bacon told reporters that three groups of the missiles, each including three launchers, would leave Europe beginning yesterday. But he declined to directly link the move to the Clinton visit.

"There are a small number of Patriot batteries going to Israel as part of a deployment exercise. They are leaving today from Europe. They will go there, they will set up, they will exercise, and they will come home," Bacon said.

"I think the timing of the exercise is just when it happened to be requested," Bacon said when pressed on whether there was a link with the presidential trip. "I stress again that this is just an exercise. The Patriots will go down there with several hundred soldiers, set up and then come back at the appropriate time."

"President Clinton will be in the region... The [Patriot] groups — we call them minimum engagement packages — will be exercising there during that time and then they will come back," Bacon added.



# Why is Clinton coming?

Political leaders are saintly (in their own eyes); political pundits are cynical (by their own admission). So who do we believe when it comes to President Clinton's upcoming visit, the commentators who view this as just another grandstanding photo-op for a president on the ropes, or the president who claims that notwithstanding the impeachment steamroller, it's "business as usual" insofar as he's concerned?

The answer in a nutshell — they're both right. Obviously, not even Clinton could have had the foresight to plan his Israeli trip several weeks ago precisely before the congressional vote on impeachment.

However, at the time no one knew what was going to happen in the November elections, so that the trip was devised back then in part

as an "extra" ("extravaganza" too) for the American public.

Being photographed in Bethlehem before Christmas can't hurt one's image in Christian America.

However, had Clinton really intended this to be a photo-op and little more, he could easily have chosen to come 10 days later: Clinton in Bethlehem during Christmas, now that's a photo-op! But he didn't, because the peace process is important to him on a gut level.

Anyone doubting that should ask why the president would spend days of his precious time in Wye, then take another long trip across the world just to make a speech before

## ANALYSIS

a bunch of former terrorists? Indeed, given the lack of enthusiasm evinced by the Israeli government for the trip, surely he could have found a way to elegantly get out of this erstwhile "junker" — especially when the American public by now has made it clear that they're behind him 100 percent (actually 67%, but that's a terrific majority in a democracy). Why didn't he? Because he really does care!

"Business as usual" is the message Clinton is trying to get across — more to the questioning world at large than to his own citizens (who want the business, not the congressional circus).

Unfortunately, "business as usual" has

another meaning for the media: "monkey business."

But the pundits would do well to look beyond their cynical view of (political) life and accept the fact that even if one of the results of the president's trip is a great photo album, the motivation may lie elsewhere.

In this, the holiday season, surely there is room for accepting heartfelt wishes and efforts to bring "peace on earth," or if not the whole world, at the very least to our small, but central, piece of the globe.

The writer is chairman of the Israel Political Science Association, and coordinator of the Communications Program at Bar-Ilan University's Department of Political Science.

## COVENANT

Continued from Page 1

US Mideast envoy Dennis Ross left last night after a longer than intended stay. Yesterday, he met with Palestinian security chief Jibril Rajoub for over two hours in Jerusalem, and later — in Tel Aviv — with Netanyahu.

Israel Radio reported last night that Ross suggested a compromise to the thorny issue of prisoner releases, proposing that a committee of Israelis, Palestinians, and Americans review a list of names and recommend that any of those who don't have blood on their hands be freed. Arafat has agreed to the idea, the radio said, quoting a Palestinian source.

Ross was in the region to set the stage for the upcoming Clinton visit and to try and contain the differences between the sides regarding the implementation process. He will return tomorrow with Clinton's entourage.

Clinton acknowledged the difficult circumstances he will encounter on the three-day trip that starts tomorrow. He told a White House ceremony yesterday marking the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that he is committed to pushing for peace and reconciliation in the Middle East.

"Palestinians and Israelis are struggling to bridge mutual distrust to implement the Wye accords," Clinton said, referring to the Wye agreement.

Analysts outside the administration said it would be a mistake for Clinton to back out now. "What he is doing is valuable precisely because it isn't popular



PA Chairman Yasser Arafat gives a V-for-victory sign, before entering yesterday's meeting of the Palestinian Central Council which revoked clauses in the Covenant. To his left are his deputy Mahmoud Abbas and refugee committee chairman Assad Abdel Rahman. (AP)

with many people" in the Middle East, said Anthony Cordesman, a professor of national security studies at Georgetown University.

Meanwhile, Clinton's proposal for financial aid to support the Wye deal drew criticism from key congressional Republicans. Incoming House Speaker Bob Livingston of Louisiana, and the incoming chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Bill Young of Florida, protested

that Congress was not consulted in advance about the request.

The administration has pledged \$900 million over five years in US economic aid to the Palestinians.

Also yesterday, Netanyahu said that Israel had received indirect messages from Syrian President Hafez Assad over the past few weeks saying he is willing to return to the negotiating table, on condition that Israel accepted the preconditions "supposedly agreed

upon with the previous government."

Bar-Ilan said that Israel is "as eager as anyone can be" to restart negotiations with the Syrians, but although the government would "take into consideration everything that has transpired" on this track, it will not be committed to any preconditions.

News agencies contributed to this report.

## VIDEO

Continued from Page 1

A vote recommending impeachment could come as early as tomorrow.

After spending most of yesterday listening to the counsels make final arguments, the 37 members of the panel were to make their own statements of up to 10 minutes each.

If those statements were not concluded yesterday, they will resume this afternoon. Then, the committee will debate and vote on a Democratic motion to censure Clinton and four Republican-drafted articles of impeachment.

Rep. Henry Hyde, the Republican committee chairman, said Wednesday he expects the process to be finished tomorrow at the earliest.

Since it is virtually certain that the committee will approve at least one article of impeachment, Speaker Newt Gingrich yesterday told House members to plan to be in Washington next week for caucus meetings on Wednesday and a floor debate opening Thursday. Final House votes are expected December 18.

Starting early in 1999, the process moves to the Senate, where Clinton would be tried and forced to resign if convicted.

The president went about his business yesterday, at one public event getting a hug from an unidentified supporter who told him, "Hang in there, Bubba."

With an exhortation that legislators "listen to the president's deceptions," Schippers played on large television screens several clips in which Clinton testified that his relationship with Lewinsky was work-oriented, not sexual.

In one clip, Clinton paused and blinked his eyes before saying he couldn't recall giving gifts to Lewinsky.

In another, Clinton looked down as his lawyer read Lewinsky's affidavit denying a "sexual relationship." The president nodded in agreement with each statement, then answered, "That is absolutely true."

After showing videotape of Clinton testifying he was unable to recall being alone with Lewinsky in the Oval Office area, Schippers sarcastically remarked, "Life was so much simpler before they found that dress, wasn't it?" He referred to one of Lewinsky's dresses that contained evidence of a sexual relationship.

Schippers was unyielding in his attacks on the president, referring to his "crafty mind," "lame and obviously contrived" explanations, and "deceitful" answers.

As for Clinton's grand jury testimony, Schippers called it a "performance" that was "calculated to mislead and deceive."

Clinton's top aides were contacting key members of Congress urging them to, at the very least, allow the full House to vote on a toughly worded censure resolution as an alternative to impeachment.

They also offered to allow Clinton's top legal defenders, including White House counsel Charles Ruff, to talk to undecided lawmakers.

As for whether Clinton may begin calling moderate Republicans himself to lobby against impeachment, press secretary Joe Lockhart said, "I can't rule out that that may be something he'll do in the future."

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I have always been true to my values and focused on the goals for which I strive. Even when we are divided on fateful issues such as the borders of Israel and the character of the Jewish state, it is our duty to remember that we have one true common goal: to continue to build and strengthen the State of Israel. To do so, we must resolve the disputes between us while respecting others and maintaining our commitment to democracy. Any compromise on these will lead only to disaster.

Minister Shaul Yahalom.

The State of Israel faces difficult decisions that require a penetrating internal debate. Tzav Pius does not attempt to obscure our differences. Indeed, it is imperative that we safeguard the rules of democracy, which means respecting the right of others to express and even fight for their opinions. History is full of debates that deteriorated into civil war when the framework of democratic debate was abused. National decisions, difficult as they may be, must not lead us to the next civil war.

MK Professor Shlomo Ben Ami



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In yesterday's Payis Hatzak drawing, ticket number 396420 won NIS 1.5 million, while ticket number 531887 won the car. Tickets 788723, 746176, 871001, 416585, 474901, 760177, 461157 and 831834 won NIS 5,000. Tickets ending in 17877, 74206, 08393, 19532, 54896, 20150, 49231, 08068, 74209, 06716, 90367, 61396, 94690, 09441, 82234, 72368, 29958, 92833 and 20409 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 969, 025, 941 and 115 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 90, 54, 05 and 36 won 30 NIS. Tickets ending in 12 and 51 won 20 NIS. Tickets ending in 9 and 1 won NIS 10.

I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the bright Morning Star!

Revelation 22:16  
Pro Zion, Switzerland

סדרה מן האמון



# THE CLINTON VISIT



Left-wing radical Palestinians burn US and Israeli flags in Bethlehem yesterday

(Flash 90)

## PA readies colorful welcome for Clinton

By BEN LYNFIELD  
and Jerusalem Post Staff

The Palestinian Authority is embarking on a major campaign to make President Bill Clinton feel welcome when he visits the Gaza Strip Monday in what the PA hopes will be a further step towards statehood.

Arafat's office has ordered 5,000 US flags and 1,000 cloth pictures of Clinton from Gaza City's PLO Flag Shop, according to store employee Tarek Abu Dayeh. And because of the shop's production limitations, a much larger number of flags have been ordered from Taiwan, he said.

Rather than go up in smoke at a demonstration, the intent is that

the stars and stripes will end up this time in friendly hands. "These flags will all be distributed free in schools and public institutions," said Abu Dayeh.

Meanwhile, Walid Awad, a Palestine National Council member from Lebanon who will attend Monday's meeting with Clinton, described the US president's visit as "a historic event."

"It is a clear sign of international recognition of Palestinian national rights, including the Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," he said in Gaza City.

Awad made clear, however, that he would not participate in any vote to take further action on the Palestinian charter, which most

PNC members believe was already scrapped during a session in 1996. The position of the Netanyahu government is that the changes were incomplete and that Arafat never followed through on nullifying the document.

"If they vote, I will be the first one to leave," Awad said.

Hamas, the Islamic Resistance Movement, is fervently against Clinton's policies but its leaders say there will be no demonstrations specifically against the US president.

"He is coming here to insure that the Palestinian side is committed completely to Wye while we watch the Israeli ministers call for more occupation of Palestinian land," said Hamas

leader Mahmud Zahar.

"We are not interested if he visits or stays in America, because wherever he is he will add nothing," Zahar said. "In my mind he is serving Israeli goals even more than other American presidents."

Zahar said he views Clinton as a pawn of the "Zionist conspiracy" in the United States. He said that the Monica Lewinsky affair was "pressing Clinton into a corner and weakening his position so that things can be squeezed from him" by Israel's supporters.

"To distribute flags does not express the real attitude about this visit since the children don't know what is going on," Zahar added. "The people who know won't carry flags."

## Clinton stay to cause Jerusalem traffic nightmares

By ELLI WOHLGELER, ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN, and MARGOT DUKKEVITCH

Whatever diplomatic gains might be achieved by President Bill Clinton's visit beginning tomorrow night, the goodwill of Jerusalemites certainly won't be one of them, as traffic and security nightmares are guaranteed to make them wish he'd stayed home.

Police and security details, both Israeli and American, are prepared for any and all possibilities. Some 15,000 security men are being deployed throughout the capital and along the routes Clinton will traverse during his three-day visit.

Inspector-General Yehuda Wilk said yesterday that the security operation is working under the assumption that the Palestinian demonstrations that have taken place in the territories over the past 12 days will move to Jerusalem during Clinton's visit, so that they can capture world media attention.

"The reason is very simple," Wilk said. "Where they had the demonstration [yesterday] is under the responsibility of the Palestinian Authority, whereas the Israel Police is responsible for Jerusalem. It's 'easy' for everybody that the demonstration

take place in Jerusalem."

He added that Arab residents of Jerusalem were called upon yesterday to partake in protests marches after prayers today.

Wilk did not rule out the possibility that terrorists would attempt to carry out attacks to hamper the visit.

While there are no specific warnings of terrorist attacks in the West Bank, military sources said there are warnings that terrorists will attempt to abduct IDF soldiers and have therefore reminded all soldiers of the regulations on hitchhiking and the need to remain alert.

Security officials say Clinton will use different doors when entering and leaving the hotel. Police have called for the public to remain patient as roads to be used by Clinton will be closed to traffic an hour before his convoy is due to pass.

Police advise citizens to use public transportation and refrain from entering the capital in private vehicles. Egged announced it would run more buses on certain lines.

There will be no parking along the following streets from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. on Sunday: Jabotinsky, Hanassi, Herzl, Ben-Zvi, Rabin, Ruppiner, Balfour, and King David. All cars along these streets will be towed.

News agencies contributed to this report.

## Arafat: I don't know whether I'll live another one or two years

In a rare moment of openness about his health, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat told visitors he may not live to see the peace process through.

Arafat, who suffers from an uncontrollable trembling of the hands and lower lip, was asked by members of a Washington think tank how he envisioned his Palestinian Authority in 20 years. He answered that "I don't know if I'll live one year or two years."

The exchange between Arafat and members of the Washington Institute of Near East Policy was reported by Ha'aretz yesterday. The meeting took place at Arafat's office in Ramallah.

Arafat, 68, has denied persistent reports that his health is failing and that he is suffering from Parkinson's disease.

However, in recent months he has looked tired and pale in public appearances.

Arafat's neurologist, Ashraf Kurdi, said last year that Arafat suffers from bouts of depression, but does not have Parkinson's, a degenerative disease that affects motor function. Kurdi confirmed that after a 1992 plane crash in the Libyan desert, Arafat bled internally and suffered from cognitive disorders. After tests and draining of the accumulated blood, Arafat returned to normal, Kurdi said. (AP)

## Five Palestinians, one policeman hurt in clashes

By MARGOT DUKKEVITCH

Five Palestinians were wounded yesterday by rubber bullets in confrontations with the IDF in the West Bank, according to Palestinian sources, while a policeman was treated for a head injury from a stone thrown near Hadassah Hospital on Mount Scopus in Jerusalem.

Yesterday's violence was less intense than previous days this week, possibly due to the cold, damp weather. But demonstrations did erupt in several areas, such as the Ayotz Junction outside of Ramallah, in Kalkilya and in Beitun Suleiman in east Jerusalem.

IDF troops dispersed the rioters with tear gas and rubber bullets. One policeman was treated for a head wound from a stone thrown

during clashes in east Jerusalem at Hadassah Hospital in Mount Scopus.

His condition was listed as good. Meanwhile, Palestinian sources claimed five Palestinians were lightly injured from rubber bullets.

Thousands attended the funeral of 17-year-old Jihad Iyad of Silwad yesterday. Iyad was killed during fierce clashes between hundreds of Palestinians and IDF troops at the Ayotz Junction on Wednesday. (Photograph, Page 5)

The IDF Spokesman denied Palestinian claims that Iyad had died from a live bullet wound and said that it was determined that he died from a rubber bullet.

The spokesman said that during the riots on Wednesday snipers used live fire to disperse rioters in

Bethlehem in a controlled manner according to regulations.

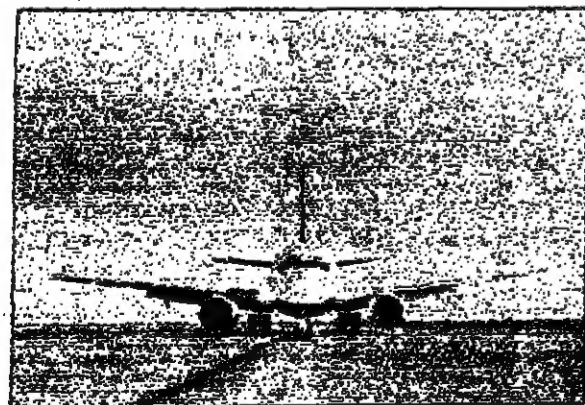
Settlers said yesterday that there are no plans to demonstrate during President Bill Clinton's visit but declared "it was a shame that it wasn't called off due to the escalation of violent clashes."

Yehudit Tayar, spokeswoman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said Clinton's visit showed how biased and one-sided the US Administration's policy is.

The fact that Clinton is going to Gaza implies his support for the establishment of a Palestinian State," she said.

"It is very clear that the US administration has decided to continue its one-sided policy in favor of the Palestinians. US envoy Dennis Ross's request when meet-

ing with West Bank Preventive Security Chief Jibril Rajoub to quell violence in the West Bank during Clinton's visit is only further proof that the US has capitulated in agreeing to the demands of terrorists," she added.



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# The Big Show

Clinton has been invited to Gaza by Netanyahu.  
They tell us that the Palestinian Covenant will be nullified there.  
**The People of Israel are not fools.**  
**The Palestinian Covenant will not be nullified.**

## What Will Really Happen in Gaza?

The ceremony of "nullifying the Covenant" will be turned into a ceremony in which the terrorist Arafat will be crowned King of Palestine by the U.S. President, accompanied by an official delegation of 1,500 Americans and covered by the world press!

## Clinton is no friend of the State of Israel!

In a speech to the Arab lobby, Clinton praised the PLO for its "tens of years of struggle."

**This was the "struggle" in which Arafat ordered the murder of the children of Ma'alot, Avivim and the athletes at the Munich Olympics!**

Clinton is exerting crude and ugly pressure on us to hand over the land to Arafat, on which he will establish a Palestinian State that will be a haven for terrorists and murderers!

**With such a "friend," who needs enemies?**

Today, the People of Israel say to Clinton, the most "Palestinian" of American Presidents:

**The meeting in Gaza is a circus - and you are no friend!**

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# Sharon ignored Pollard in US visit

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon did not discuss the release of convicted spy Jonathan Pollard during his talks earlier this week with Clinton administration officials in Washington, according to a ranking Foreign Ministry official.

"That is a matter for the Washington embassy," the official, who is traveling with Sharon, said yesterday during a stop in New York.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sought Pollard's release during talks with the US and the Palestinians at the Wye River Plantation. There also is a widely held expectation that all visiting Israeli officials will seek the release of Pollard - if not visit him in North Carolina, where he is serving a life sentence in a federal prison.

Meanwhile, the Associated Press reported that President Bill Clinton has no plans to discuss Pollard's release during his three-day visit to Israel and the Palestinian areas.

Clinton next month is due to receive reports about a possible Pollard release from Attorney General Janet Reno, CIA Director George Tenet, Defense Secretary William Cohen and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

Traditionally, the US security agencies have been vehemently opposed to his release and Tenet told Clinton during the Wye talks that he would resign if Pollard were freed.



Signs put up by 'Citizens for Pollard' yesterday hang opposite the entrance to the Jerusalem Hilton Hotel, where President Bill Clinton will be staying.

US officials have never revealed - to the public or to Pollard's numerous defense lawyers - what damaging material he is said to have turned over to the Israelis.

According to a report on the CBS network, those materials included a top secret 10-volume manual used by the National Security Agency to tap foreign communications and

protect US government communications from intercept.

CBS also said Pollard's information enabled the Israelis to identify CIA sources inside the PLO.

He also told the Israelis of the disposition of US ships in the Mediterranean to help Israel strike PLO headquarters in Tunisia without detection.

## NOTEBOOK

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon announced yesterday that despite being invited to all the state ceremonies and events relating to the visit of President Bill Clinton, he has not changed his mind and will not participate in them.

Tichon added that Clinton is a welcome guest in Israel "but his non-appearance before the Knesset plenum harms the Knesset's standing as the House of the state's elected representatives and symbol of national sovereignty."

• DESPITE persistent rumors in Israel that Clinton intends bringing his faithful four-legged friend, it looks like Buddy is not going to tail along after all. The presidential dog is in the White House and apparently will be staying there while his owner is abroad. But US embassy officials did not completely rule out a last-minute change in plans.

Should Buddy turn up, Hilton Hotels press relations manager Moti Verses said he would be able to make the necessary arrangements at short notice.

• A SAXOPHONE just like the one which US President Bill Clinton has in the White House will be available for him in Jerusalem, thanks to the Jerusalem Hilton staff who chanced upon Ginzburg Music Ltd. in Tel Aviv's Rehov Allenby, and discovered the owner's brother had sold Clinton the original in America.

The hotel stressed that the president did not ask to have a saxophone at hand, but it likes to surprise its guests. Now the hotel personnel are wondering whether they should put it in Clinton's room, or whether they should only bring it out if he asks for one. The problem, of course, is that it might not occur to Clinton to ask.

• LAST NIGHT, the Jerusalem Hilton staff were still not sure what food to have on hand for the visit. However, knowing of Clinton's predilection for health food, they were already stocking up on lots of fresh fruit and preparing the ingredients for fresh fruit juices.

They have also heard that the Clintons like fish, so the menu of the hotel's deluxe fish restaurant, Aqua le Divellec, is to be available in their room and the restaurant's chef, Arik Arias, is sleeping at the hotel throughout the visit, just in case.



Yasin Kutine and Omer Lang, responsible for receiving the Clintons at the Hilton Hotel in Jerusalem, pose with the tenor saxophone, identical to his own, acquired for the president's enjoyment should the mood take him.

As for the state dinner, the wine list is to consist solely of vintages from the Golan Winery. The meal is to open with sparkling Yarden Blanc de Blanc 1994, continue with Yarden Chardonnay 1997 and Merlot 1988, then close with the Yarden Muscat 1995.

• THE ASHKELON Holiday Inn's been taken over - by the FBI and CIA. The US security

agencies have taken all 215 rooms in the hotel, manager Itzik Evron said yesterday, adding that his staff is working hard to supply them with beer, pizza and Cuban cigars.

"It's a lot of fun," Evron said. Evron said the security agents are really enjoying the Cuban cigars, since they aren't available in the US.

About 100 US security agents have been at the hotel for the past

few days, and another 100 are expected before Clinton gets to Israel tomorrow night, the hotel's public relations director, Natalie Sibony said.

The hotel staff is setting up conference rooms and other facilities for Clinton, should he decide to stay at the hotel or hold peace talks there instead of at Erez on Monday. Evron hopes Clinton will at least hold a press conference at the Holiday Inn.

## Clinton's expected itinerary

By DANNA HARMAN

The following is the expected schedule for President Bill Clinton's visit:

### Saturday

Clinton arrives at Ben Gurion Airport. It is not clear whether the welcome ceremony will be held at the airport or the next day in Jerusalem.

### Sunday

Clinton meets with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Lays wreath at Rabin's grave. Lights first Hanukkah candle at President Ezer Weizman's house.

Speaks to youth at Jerusalem International Convention Center. Attends gala dinner at Jerusalem Hilton hosted by the prime minister.

Hillary Clinton visits the children's ward at Hadassah Ein Karem hospital to hand out Hanukkah gifts with Sara Netanyahu; visits Yad Rachel - a mother-child center; and visits Naveh Shulom.

### Monday

Clinton travels by helicopter to Gaza. Meets and lunches with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. Addresses PNC meeting.

[Possible summit meeting at Erez or Ashkelon following the PNC meeting] Returns to Jerusalem.

Hillary Clinton will visit a girl's school and a Gaza refugee camp with Suha Arafat.

### Tuesday

Clinton meets with opposition leader Ehud Barak. Travels by helicopter to light a Christmas tree with Hillary. Flies by helicopter to Masada where he and Hillary lunch with the Netanyahu's, and Netanyahu gives a guided tour of the site. Returns to Washington.

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## FM: Covenant must be changed by vote

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon, meeting with American Jewish leaders, insisted yesterday that the Palestinians take a formal vote to change the Palestinian Covenant. They must make the change "not by dancing, shouting, applauding, but by raising hands," he told the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

President Bill Clinton would be a "most welcomed guest" in Israel, Sharon said, without commenting on the discord in the Netanyahu government over Clinton's three-day visit.

Although the government is

seen in the US as waffling on its commitment to the peace process, Sharon said that it had not deviated in its policy.

"The Israeli government is on the track of peace," Sharon said. "I don't think we have to prove anything."

In a wide-ranging discussion, Sharon also called for additional peace talks in the region, with Syria and Lebanon, but asserted that they are distinct issues that should not be combined.

"I personally believe we have to separate the peace talks that I hope will take place with Syria from the issue of Lebanon," Sharon said.

Israel is bound to warn Lebanon in advance of its plans and the consequences to Lebanon

if it does not agree with Israeli plans, he said, without specifying either the plans or consequences. He also said there is the "important" outstanding question of the South Lebanese Army, again without elaborating.

"If we wait to get approval from the Syrians [for activities regarding Lebanon], we are going to pay a tremendous price," he said.

He warned that the linkage cannot continue, because that would give Damascus leverage to intensify its support of Hizbullah, and "our soldiers would become hostages" to talks with Syria.

Sharon was asked why the Israelis are attempting to revive the Palestinian National Council for the purpose of a vote on the

Covenant, and why such a vote would be considered meaningful in stopping Palestinian violence.

"They signed it; now they have to do it," he said, referring to the Wye agreement. He added that the PNC was considered dead, yet was organizing "the Palestinian population to prepare for next May 4."

The PNC cannot be both dead and alive, he said.

He called the current round of violence in the territories "the new intifada," and said that Israel had never agreed to release as "political" prisoners those who had murdered Israeli and Palestinian civilians.

Sharon was scheduled to meet later yesterday with UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

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# Abu Dis death fuels Palestinian anger

By BEN LYNFIELD

In the posters put up by youth-ful Fatah activists yesterday near the site where Nasser Erekat was fatally shot, he looks like an unlikely candidate for nationalist heroics: intelligent eyes, a soft smile, and a v-neck sweater.

Yet the posters proclaiming the Bir Zeit University commerce student a "martyr of the prisoners uprising," and the anger of youths gathered outside the family's home signal that the death has added fuel to West Bank tensions and could impinge on the visit of President Bill Clinton.

Erekat died of a wound to the head on Wednesday, a day after being shot by a border policeman in circumstances that remain unclear.

Anwar Badir, 23, who knew Erekat and is one of the youths who has been demonstrating for the release of 3,000 political prisoners in Israeli jails, said: "This is a new intifada of the prisoners and we are ready for any circumstances." His words contrasted sharply with the pragmatic tone of top Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat, a cousin of the deceased, who said the death made him more determined to pursue negotiations and focus them on "trying to save the lives of the masses out there."

The demonstrations across the West Bank, with large-scale participation, burning tires and stonethrowing, are reminiscent of the 1987-93 intifada. They have raged across the West Bank this week, with Ramallah, Bethlehem and Nablus among the major flashpoints.

The prisoner issue is a particularly sensitive one because of the large numbers of Palestinians who have been in jail or who have relatives who are or were in Israeli prison. Moreover, the prisoners are viewed as nationalist strugglers against occupation, whose freedom should be a basic part of any settlement.

Israel's response is that it has upheld the Wye agreement regarding releases and that the



The father, mother and brother of 17-year-old Jihad Iyad at his funeral yesterday. In Silwad, Iyad was killed in clashes with the IDF at Ayosh Junction outside Ramallah on Wednesday.

Palestinian Authority is stirring up the unrest.

However, the anger of the youths does not appear to stem solely from the prisoner issue.

According to Badir, there is general sense of frustration: "We are protesting all of the things - the prisoners, settlements, collective punishments, the absence of the safe passages. The feeling is that Israel is not implementing [agreements with the PA]."

He and others at the Erekat house also stressed the recent killing of Omar Natshe, a resident of Abu Tor, who was slashed

to death last week as he walked to work. This and previous violence against Arabs by an as yet unapprehended assailant appear to have been felt on an almost personal level in Abu Dis.

"People are very angry. [Natshe] was an unarmed man bringing food to his children," said Musa Tawfiq Erekat, a relative of the deceased.

Saeb Erekat consoled his cousin's family and partook of the traditional meal of mourning, in this case a dish of lamb and rice.

"What good will Netanyahu's

killing fields do?" he asked afterwards.

"This convinces me more that this peace process must be preserved and hopefully one day [Israel's leaders] will see the light so that the pain of Nasser's family will not be repeated and so that one day no family, Palestinian or Israeli will have to go through this."

Relatives of Nasser Erekat say he was not at the demonstration Tuesday, when border police clashed with stonethrowing youths. Instead, they say, he was shot on the roof of his house.

The IDF spokesman said in a statement: "In disturbances that took place [Tuesday] in Abu Dis, a force of border police arrived and fired a number of rubber bullets."

Later a report was received that a Palestinian was gravely wounded in the head. In the wake of the incident an investigation was opened by the unit that investigates police at the Justice Ministry.

Last night the spokesman added that the investigation found that the troops had acted according to regulations.

## NEWS

in brief

### A third of TAU students use drugs

Every third student at Tel Aviv University uses or has used drugs, according to the chairman of the Struggle Against Drugs, MK Eli Ben-Menachem.

Ben-Menachem said yesterday, at the premiere of *Shavir*, an Educational TV documentary film on drugs, that 17% of all Israeli students have used or are currently using drugs.

The film will be broadcast December 19 at 11 a.m. on Educational TV and December 21 on Channel 23 at 9 p.m. Ben-Menachem complained that the government has cut budgets for drug rehabilitation, causing the odd phenomenon of empty beds in institutions that lack professionals to do the work despite the long queue of people awaiting treatment. He added that of the 200,000 Israelis who have used drugs, there are 30,000 addicts. Ten percent of youngsters up to the age of 18 have used or are taking drugs.

Judy Siegel

### UN: Antisemitism is a form of racism

NEW YORK - The UN General Assembly, which long equated Zionism with racism, has passed a resolution that calls antisemitism a form of racism.

The non-binding resolution was approved Wednesday as part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the UN convention against genocide, and asks governments to monitor "contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination," including those "against blacks, Arabs and Muslims, xenophobia, Negrophobia, antisemitism and related intolerance." The resolution was introduced by Indonesia, and co-sponsored by Germany and Turkey.

Marilyn Henry

### Judea, Samaria cmdr. upped to major-general

The commander of IDF forces in Judea and Samaria Yitzhak Eitan was promoted to major-general yesterday, although he will remain in his current position.

Eitan's promotion brings to 21 the number of active major-generals in the IDF.

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, a former commander of IDF troops in the Gaza Strip, said that Eitan was needed to remain in his post "in light of the complicated tasks expected in the future, the need for continuity of command, and the experience to carry out... vital security assignment[s]."

Arieh O'Sullivan

### Treasury sells \$250m. in bonds

The Treasury yesterday successfully raised \$250 million in a public flotation on the American Yankee bond market. The 30-year bonds, with an interest rate of 6.25%, were purchased by some 20 investors, several of whom were buying Israeli bonds for the first time.

Accountant-General Shay Talmon expressed his delight at the outcome, particularly as this was Israel's first entry on the international bond market since the financial crisis in Russia erupted during the summer.

David Zev Harris

## Jordanians preparing Jordan River baptism site for year 2000

By HAIM SHAPIRO

While Israel continues to restrict access to the traditional site of the baptism of Jesus by the Jordan River, on the grounds that it is a closed military area, the Jordanians are busy preparing their own baptismal site on the eastern shore of the Jordan.

The traditional site, east of Jericho, between the Dead Sea and the Allenby Bridge, consists of a series of areas held by the various churches, including a Greek Orthodox church and monastery, and a Roman Catholic prayer site. It was open until 1967, when it came under Israeli control and was declared a closed military area.

Before 1967, the Ministry of Tourism had opened and developed another baptism site on the Jordan near Lake Kinneret. Although that site has become popular with Protestants, and especially evangelicals, it has never been recognized by the historic churches.

About 10 years ago, the Military Administration opened the traditional site on the Jordan for a few

days of pilgrimage. Orthodox Christians were allowed to visit during their feast of Epiphany, on January 18, and Roman Catholics in October. Later, another pilgrimage date was instituted during the Orthodox Holy Week. However, despite the peace treaty with Jordan, the area has not been opened to regular visits by pilgrims.

The Civil Administration has paved a new road to the river, and built cement stairs going down to the water, replacing them when they were swept away by floods. However, the area has a general atmosphere of neglect.

Meanwhile, Jordan has announced that it is opening its own baptismal site, together with an archaeological site, about three kilometers east of the Jordan, that it says was the home of John the Baptist. In an announcement issued at the recent World Tourism Mart in London, Jordanian Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Akel Biltaji said Jordanian archaeologists and excavation teams were working round the clock to prepare the area for the year 2000.

The ancient site, known as Bethany beyond the Jordan, includes a first century site with plastered pools and water systems, "almost certainly used for baptisms," the Jordanian statement said. It also spoke of a fifth and sixth century byzantine settlement with churches and a monastery.

Father Emilio Barcena, director of the Christian Information Center in the Old City of Jerusalem, said, when asked about the Jordanian site, that the Franciscan order to which he belongs is participating in the excavations, and that they have uncovered impressive and beautiful mosaics. He said that the Jordanians were working on the site so as to open it quickly.

"They want to open it as soon as possible. For us, the place [in Israel] is closed and [the one in Jordan] is open. Why shouldn't Israel open it all the time, and not just once a year?" Barcena asked.

Metropolitan Vassilios of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate said that, for his Church, both the eastern and western banks of the Jordan were equally sacred.

## Samarian settlers divided over security

By MARGOT DUDKEVITCH

Residents of Kadim and Ganim were divided yesterday on how to react to what they see as a deteriorating security situation. Kadim's secretary Yaacov Even denied that residents were planning to leave the settlement in exchange for monetary compensation, but Avner Sivani of Ganim said 88 percent of the residents had expressed a willingness to leave.

In light of the growing concerns, members of the Gaza settlement Nezarim hosted residents of northern Samarian communities to shore up their fortitude, shaken after Monday's drive-by shooting of Kadim resident Carlos Vasales. Reaction to the gesture was varied. One woman from Homesh said despite the encouragement, she still planned to move.

In Ganim, said Sivani, families with children cannot just pick up and leave. As a result, they are seeking options, not money. Some residents would be satisfied if the government just took steps to ensure

their security. Others say they are too afraid to stay and would accept alternative housing inside Israel instead of a monetary sum.

Ganim is a not an ideological settlement and its residents feel as if they have been forced into a hostage-like situation, said Sivani. Investing money to build swimming pools and public buildings won't solve the problem, he added. Ganim residents just want the opportunity to live peacefully with their neighbors.

Since Jenin was handed over to the Palestinians there has been a rise in violence, and instead of reaping the benefits of a rural lifestyle, Ganim residents have become victims of the peace accords.

Sivani said residents are bitter that no one has met with them to discuss the issues and endeavour to solve them. "I have lived here for 18 years - a third of my life - and now I have a family and children. If I was alone I would take a tent and set it up in Kikar Hamedina," he said.

## Crime reporter suspected of wiretapping cops

By HEIDI J. GLEIT

Dan Region police interrogated Army Radio crime reporter Yairiv Ben-Yehuda yesterday after his arrest on suspicion of eavesdropping on their phone calls.

Police began investigating Ben-Yehuda and several other reporters a few months ago when they became suspicious that their cellular phones were being listened to.

Police plan on questioning several other reporters in the near future.

Ben-Yehuda is suspected of accessing conversations between Lt.-Cmdr. David Krause, commander of police in the Dan region, and station chiefs in the region.

Police believe he acquired the code that all police require to access conversations among the station commanders.

Ben-Yehuda began his career in Army Radio six years ago as a technician.

Army Radio commander Ze'ev

Drori said he had suspended Ben-Yehuda until the matter was clarified.

Item contributed to this report

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The tender documents are written in Hebrew.

An English translation of the tender may be requested.

Last date for submitting bids: January 24, 1999, at 11 a.m.

Additional participation pre-conditions:

A. Participation in the tender is also subject to complying with the preliminary conditions detailed in the Tender Regulations 1993, Para. 6(a) 1, 2, 3 (i.e., registration as required by law, compliance with mandatory specifications, and the holding of the permits required by law for transactions with public bodies).

B. The Israel Electric Corporation reserves the right to allow a bidder who has not provided some required relevant documents, permits, licenses, etc., to submit them within a time that will be set by the Corporation.

The tender documents may be obtained Sunday - Thursday, at the Market Research and Tenders Department, 11 Siderot Pal-Yam, Haifa, between 9 a.m. and 12 noon, on submission of a receipt, demonstrating payment for the documents (non-refundable) into the Corporation's account at the Postal Bank. Payment slips for making such payments are obtainable at the above address by calling 04-668-74534.

Before purchasing the tender documents, potential bidders may peruse them, Sunday - Thursday, 9 a.m.-12 noon, at the above offices or at the Sales Department, 90 Rehov Yigal Alon, Tel Aviv, Ashdod Building, entrance C, 1st floor, Tel. 03-565-4679, 03-565-4641. (An appointment to peruse the documents must be made beforehand, with the Sales Department.)

Bids should be submitted in a sealed envelope and be placed in Tender Box No. 1 in the Pal-Yam Building, Haifa (address as above) not later than 11 a.m. on the last date for submitting bids, as stated above.

Bids may not be submitted at the offices of the Israel Electric Corporation in Tel Aviv. Bids submitted in Tel Aviv will not be considered.

No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

In appropriate cases, the Electric Corporation will give preference to suppliers, in accordance with the Tenders Regulations (Preference for Locally Produced Goods, and Obligation to Extend Commercial Cooperation).

The tender documents may be read on the IEC's Internet site: [WWW.ISRAEL-ELECTRIC.CO.IL](http://WWW.ISRAEL-ELECTRIC.CO.IL)

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# Lebanese protest IAF 'sonic bombing'

By DAVID RUDGE

Hizbullah yesterday threatened to retaliate for what was described as the "sonic bombing" of Lebanon by the IAF over the past few days.

Reports in the Lebanese press said sonic booms had created consternation among residents and broken windows of homes in Beirut and several towns and villages.

The newspaper reports said the noise from the planes had awak-

ened residents in Beirut and port cities, including Tyre and Sidon, in the early hours of yesterday morning and sent them running into the streets thinking there was a barrage.

UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel was in Tyre yesterday morning and heard the booms from the planes.

"As a resident of northern Israel and also somebody who works in southern Lebanon, I am used to all kinds of bangs. The ones I heard when I was in Tyre were

extremely loud and, I must confess, even made me nervous," Goksel said.

Prime Minister Salim Hoss condemned the overflights as "acts of aggression against civilians and provocation." He instructed the Foreign Ministry to protest to UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan and to lodge a complaint with the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group.

The *An-Nahar* daily said the overflights were designed to disturb residents and put pressure on

the Lebanese government to curb Hizbullah.

Security sources were quoted in the Lebanese media, as saying that the constant air activity at supersonic speed was a new form of message from Israel. They said the overflights, since the beginning of the week, were being seen as a warning from Israel of the type of action it might take if it suffers any more heavy casualties in the security zone.

A Hizbullah official said that the overflights and the sonic

booms, which were "terrorizing the people," were infringements of Lebanese sovereignty and were violations of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

"The Zionists will be confronted with the appropriate response for every breach of the April [Grapes of Wrath] understandings," the official was quoted as saying on Hizbullah's radio.

The IDF spokesman said in response that "there's nothing to report about the routine activities of the air force."

## Ministry acting against illegal building on coastline

By LIAT COLLINS

There are hundreds of illegal structures along the coastline, according to a report released this week by the Environment Ministry.

These include buildings, fences, and walls built less than 100 meters from the shore. In addition there are scores of coastal construction plans involving serious environmental problems. The National Outline Plan for the Coast bans any construction within 100 meters of the coastal waters. The ministry is preparing legislation, nicknamed the coast law, to help deal with the problem.

The report was drawn up by the ministry's Marine and Coast Unit at the request of ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen. She said that unless the National Planning Construction Council takes action "the few remaining open beaches will disappear."

"We are facing an environmental catastrophe and irreversible environmental damage to the coast, which will become a perpetual source of regret for future generations," Ronen said. "It is inconceivable that the authorized bodies ignore the scope of illegal construction along the already sparse [open] coast and have a hand in approving plans which

even today deviate from the national outline plan."

Among the examples she cited is Kfar Hayam in Hadera which is between 15 meters and 60 meters from the shoreline. She said the building work there has continued despite warnings from the ministry.

Ronen said the proposed law would shortly be presented to the relevant government ministries, before being submitted to the Knesset for first reading. She also said the ministry is demanding the Interior Ministry, NPCC, and local authorities act against illegal structures.

She said the Environment Ministry is examining the legal measures it can take against those responsible for illegal construction, although the matter does not fall under its jurisdiction.

Micha Goldman (Labor), who chairs the Knesset Interior and Environment Committee, met this week with representatives of the Israel Union for Environmental Defense-Adam Teva Vedin, and said the committee would give full support to furthering legislation to protect the coast.

The committee this week toured the Yavne-Asdod area to see first hand the problems of the large-scale theft of sand. Goldman said this is part of a larger effort by the committee to protect the coastline.

## Experts urge better monitoring of assisted reproduction

By JUDY SIEGEL

More control and supervision of assisted reproduction technology (ART) such as in-vitro fertilization are needed in Israel, where the number of IVF treatment cycles given to infertile women is 10 times the rate in the US, and the number of

Dolly, nearly two years ago, added great scientific enlightenment about how genes function, it was unlikely that human cloning will be possible or useful - if at all desirable - for quite a long time to come, since a thousand human uteruses would be needed to create just one viable

genetic diseases or to prevent cancers or heart disease linked to abnormal genes, they also raise major ethical issues.

Lord Jakobovits said one could clearly distinguish between using those technologies to benefit health by correcting nature, and to improve nature without health benefits. He welcomed the unusual conference - held to promote bilateral ties between the two countries and mark Israel's 50th anniversary of independence - "to help awaken interest in Jewish insights on universal problems."

Although Jews have been leaders in medical and ethical studies over the millennium, the links between the two as a "Jewish medical ethics" have not been widely considered until recent decades, he concluded. A Health Page feature on the medical ethics conference will appear on Sunday, December 20.

## Abe Hirschfeld arrested for plotting to kill partner

Abe Hirschfeld, the New York real estate developer and millionaire, who offered Paula Jones \$1 million to settle her sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton, has been arrested on charges of plotting to kill a business partner, New York police said yesterday.

Hirschfeld appeared in court yesterday for arraignment.

The indictment concerns allegations that Hirschfeld, 79, tried in late 1996 to arrange the contract killing of his business partner, Stanley Stahl, 73.

The two men have been involved in civil litigation since 1993 over Hirschfeld's claim that Stahl had an unlawful bias about renting to black people. Stahl denied the charges.

Hirschfeld offered Jones a \$1 million check in October to settle her lawsuit against Clinton.

Jones had accused Clinton of harassing her in 1991 while she was an Arkansas state government employee and he was state governor.

Lawyers for Clinton and Jones settled the lawsuit on November 13 with an agreement that he pay her \$850,000 but make no apology or admission of wrongdoing.

The Jones lawsuit was instrumental in bringing to light Clinton's White House affair with Monica Lewinsky.

An interview with Hirschfeld conducted before the arrest appears in today's *Magazine*.

(Reuters)

The Jerusalem Foundation extends its deepest sympathies to Lillian Feinberg and the family on the passing of

**ABRAHAM FEINBERG**

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**ILSE SCHWARZMANN**

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**Rubin - an honest friend**



People struggle with their umbrellas on Jerusalem's Rehov Ben-Yehuda pedestrian mall yesterday. (Kevin Unger)

## Winter makes brief appearance

By DAVID RUDGE

Winter made a brief, but welcome appearance yesterday, bringing much-needed rain to most parts of the country.

It was short-lived, however. Forecasters said the rain, which was accompanied by strong winds and a marked drop in temperatures, would die out during the course of today.

The forecast for tomorrow and

Sunday is for a return to the bright, dry, and relatively warm weather that preceded the wintry spell. The Meteorological Service said there are no signs of further rain in the next few days.

The rain was seen as a blessing by farmers, who had expressed concern over winter field crops because of the ongoing dry spell. But they said more rain is needed in the not-too-distant future, otherwise seeds that began to germinate

would die from lack of water.

The rain had no effect on the level of water in the Kinneret, which remains at a nine-year low: just 44 centimeters above the red-line below which it is not allowed to drop.

The late winter is also causing concern among the staff of the Mt. Hermon ski site. They are hoping for heavy snow to enable the opening of the skiing season.

## Abe Feinberg - a founder of the state

By DAVID BAR-ILLAN

I was a student of 17, newly arrived in the US, when Abe Feinberg and his wife Lillian invited me to stay at their home. They had a son my age and a younger daughter, and overnight I was made to feel like a member of the family. It was a home of casual informality and impeccable urbanity, preoccupied with American politics and Zionist passions.

The time was that fateful period before the UN passed the resolution recommending partition, and Feinberg - a successful, self-made businessman active in Democratic Party politics - was using his connections to ensure American support for the resolution. I could not help being awed by the frequent calls from the Truman White House.

I returned to Israel to join the army when the War of Independence broke out, and he made a point of visiting me at my Nabariya army post on his way to see David Ben-Gurion. It was characteristic of him to worry about his son's friend, while play-



Abe Feinberg (Alan Ron / Israel Sun)

ing a major role in momentous historic events. Only later did I learn that he was Israel's unofficial liaison with Truman, responsible for getting the almost instantaneous American recognition of the state and the first American financial assistance for Israel. He acted in a similar capacity with presidents John Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, and Jimmy Carter, and on his frequent visits to Israel in recent years he would regale his friends with the fascinating, poignant and illuminating stories of his relationship with them.

If I had to pinpoint Feinberg's most characteristic trait, I would choose humility. His passion for anonymity seemed irreconcilable with his king-size frame, blunt talk, gravelly voice, and brilliant oratory, but it defined him throughout his life.

That is why so much of what he did for Israel, before and after the establishment of the state, remains relatively unknown. He sought accomplishments, not glory.

In pre-state days, he founded the Americans Friends of Haganah and its newspaper, *Haganah Speaks*. The group he headed helped Holocaust survivors break

the British blockade of Palestine, and later supported the Israel Supply Mission. Teddy Kollek's New York operation responsible for sending vital materials to Israel during the arms embargo of the War of Independence.

He was the initiator of the Development Corporation for Israel (Israel Bonds), and its chairman and chief executive officer for many years, and a founder of the United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York. There was hardly a Jewish cause to which he was not a major contributor.

When his son, a celebrated child psychiatrist, died recently, he endowed the psychiatric wing at Schneider Children's Medical Center for Israel in Petah Tikva.

Most of all Feinberg, who acquired his law degree in night school, took pride in supporting higher education. He established the Feinberg Graduate School of the Weizmann Institute of Science, of which he was president and chief executive officer. He headed the board of trustees of Brandeis University, and he was an original trustee of the Kennedy Library, the Truman Library, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Foundation, and a member of the Board of Higher Education of the City of New York. The list is endless.

When he died last Saturday, I felt I lost a lifelong friend. But beyond that I felt that another of the era's giants, a founder of the state, had left the scene. All too often, nostalgia and the fuzziness of memory tend to glorify the past. But half a century ago, there truly were those few exceptional people who, like Abe Feinberg, loomed larger than life. With fortitude and courage and infinite determination, they met the challenge of the time and shaped history to their indomitable will.

The writer is director of policy planning and communications in the Prime Minister's Office.

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סוכן מן הארץ



## Writers of wrongs

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

That is Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, signed 50 years ago in Paris this week. The declaration, a preamble and 30 articles, is more long-winded than the Ten Commandments, and is nowhere near as elegant as Isaac Asimov's *Three Laws of Robotics*. The obligations of the Ten Commandments were limited first to Jews, then to Christians, and were generally ignored by all unless embodied in state laws. The Asimov laws are not yet needed. The Declaration of Human Rights is needed, accepted, and widely ignored.

It was a noble roar from a toothless lion – the UN General Assembly – which has itself perpetrated gross violations of the freedom, equality, dignity, reason, conscience and spirit of brotherhood of Article 1.

But, one may ask, how would God fare in a trial for crimes against the Ten Commandments? Not well.

### Gods that fail

Flawed gods and assemblies can, and do, advance humanity in greater leaps of the imagination than their holier-than-thou priests and wimpy, whining, political correctors. And sometimes, as those flawed magnificent Greeks and Romans demonstrated, it takes a concrete abstract – The Law – to show them all up as mere writers of wrongs, not righters of injustices.

The real gift to this week's 50th anniversary celebrations in Paris has come from Madrid and London, in the decision to let the law take its course with the coarse Chilean dictator, Augusto Pinochet.

Pinochet may have murdered a democracy and its elected leader and killed and maimed 3,000 innocent victims, but the wretched little egomaniac is by no means the worst of his nasty breed.

He does make a handy test case, however.

The British Law Lords ruled that heads of state are not immune from crimes that would send you and me to jail (or even, as in the great American democracy, to execution). Simple. It is a legal statement of what has been blindingly obvious since the time of Hammurabi the law-giver – just like the rights declaration.

In fact the Law Lords ruling already was drafted into Article 30 of the 1948 declaration. This says that nothing in the previous 29 articles may be interpreted as giving any person or state any right to destroy any of the rights and freedoms written therein.

### Pass the sword

Many states did and do pervert the declaration by using its provisions to justify "law and order" or "security" or "Asian values" or, most perversely in old South Africa, to protect

"minority rights" by repressing the majority.

Now law once again comes to the aid of ideal aspiration – even if 50 years late, and a double-edged sword. Britain's own democratic Margaret Thatcher could be liable for indictment in Argentina for the controversial British attack on the retreating ship *Belgrano* that killed 300 sailors during the Falklands War. So be it. Let's slice the Gordian knot of hypocrisy and let them all have their day in court.

After all, it took decades of painful adjustment to change modern attitudes to smoking, or drunken driving, or women's rights.

Now it's time to make all heads of government think twice about ordering murder, or torture, or breaking bones, or land-grabbing – just as any citizen has to think twice about such crimes.

This new twist to enforcing respect for human rights on heads of government, has had immediate repercussions. Some African leaders sent envoys ahead of them to Paris a couple of weeks ago to check if they might be arrested on visits. Papa Doc Duvalier is reported to have disappeared or gone into hiding in France. NATO grabbed a senior Bosnian Serb general for trial in the Hague, and Radovan Karadzic is also hiding in some rat-hole.

### Adjust your mind-set

Man was born free but is everywhere in chains, remains the gloomy view of human rights, even in the democracies. Amnesty's 400-page summary of only the worst abuses flays 142 states (and autonomous territories) in varying degrees in its 1998 annual report. How many does that leave? In mainland Europe, west and east, only nine states escape censure – the Czech Republic, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and Slovenia.

And yet, and yet... the Universal Declaration of Human Rights merits much more than two cheers at 50. It was the declaration's spirit that inspired the post-1948 struggles for freedom and self-determination, the civil rights movements that swept the West in the 1960s, and the ultimate defeat of communism.

The legal authority of the declaration is its legacy. It is now legitimate to fight oppression, to fight for equality under the law.

There is no longer a valid concept in international law of a second-class citizen.

Dictators and corrupt governments squirm and weasel out of observing the declaration, yet all but the most ghoulish pay it lip service.

"Little by little, a new world judicial order is being constructed in which no one – not even a head of state – can be shielded from crimes against humanity," said President Jacques Chirac, at the Paris ceremonies.

For the next 50 years, let's lose the "little by little" and reach for the "more and more."

### Column One



Thomas O'Dwyer



Chilean exiles join members of Amnesty International yesterday in a march to the Home Office in London, where they laid 3,197 white flowers in memory of the 3,197 people officially listed as missing during dictator Augusto Pinochet's rule.

## Pinochet indicted

MADRID (AP) – The judge driving efforts to extradite Augusto Pinochet to stand trial in Spain for crimes committed during his 17-year rule yesterday issued his indictment of the former Chilean dictator.

In the 300-page document, Judge Baltasar Garzon charged Pinochet with genocide and torture in the deaths and disappearance of more than 3,000 people during his virulently anti-Communist regime.

Garzon also requested a freeze of the former dictator's world assets and asked that he remain under police guard in Britain to prevent any attempt to flee.

The indictment came the day after British Home Secretary Jack Straw ruled Spain could begin

extradition proceedings against Pinochet, who was arrested on October 16 in a London clinic, where he was recuperating from back surgery.

Legal experts expect it will be months or even years before it is finally decided whether Pinochet will actually be extradited.

The 83-year-old former dictator was arrested on a warrant issued by Garzon, who had compiled – with the help of human rights organizations – a detailed dossier against Pinochet. Garzon initially cited 94 Spaniards among the victims as the basis for the extradition, but since has broadened his warrant.

Yesterday's indictment contained a list of thousands of alleged victims, including Spaniards, Argentines, Paraguayans, Bolivians, and Mexicans.

In the document, Garzon notes that an amnesty law approved by Pinochet's government before he left power rules out putting him on trial in Chile.

Therefore, he argues, Pinochet must stand trial either in Britain or in Spain.

The document also lays out the argument for charging Pinochet with genocide, saying Pinochet sought to eliminate his political opponents.

It said the terrorism charge was brought because Pinochet's regime undermined the constitutional and international order, and the torture charge was based on over 500,000 cases of degrading treatment in detention.

## UN inspectors banned from Baath office

BAGHDAD (AP) – UN inspectors searching suspected weapons sites in Iraq will not be allowed to enter an office of the ruling Baath Party they were denied access to earlier, a party official said yesterday.

A Baath Party leader, Latif Nayyif Jassim told reporters the inspectors would not be allowed inside the office.

"They won't enter," Jassim told a news conference at the office in Baghdad's Adhamiya neighborhood.

"You will not find inside this office any materials related to what they are looking for."

The office is inside a two-story stucco building behind black gates, and has no sign outside indicating it is an office of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's party, although there is an emblem of the party over the door.

Jassim – a former information minister who is the Baath Party chief in Baghdad – insisted the office is private property and it is his decision whether anyone can enter.

He said the party works on political matters and not anything

related to the inspectors' work.

"My base is protected, and no one can enter except a party member or an Iraqi national," he said.

In Washington, Defense Secretary William Cohen said Iraq's blocking of inspections has created a "very serious situation," which still could prompt a no-notice military attack. But Cohen also indicated that military action did not appear imminent.

On Wednesday, a team of 12 inspectors was turned back when it tried to enter the office.

The inspectors left after an Iraqi official demanded they first provide a written declaration "on the material and items" they sought, the official Iraqi News Agency said.

Later Wednesday, however, an Iraqi official suggested the Iraqi escorts had made a mistake in declaring the site sensitive.

The US, which has threatened military action during two previous standoffs between Iraq and UN inspectors this year, was cautious.

"As the president has said, if UNSCOM cannot do its job effectively, we remain poised to act," David Leavy, a spokesman for the National Security Council, said Wednesday. He declined to say what would trigger US military action.

In Britain, which also has threatened to take military action, a Foreign Office spokesman said yesterday that "all problems over inspection are a serious concern."

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## WORLD

in brief

### Yemeni tribesmen blow up US-owned pipeline

SAN'A (AP) – Yemeni tribesmen blew up a pipeline operated by Hunt Oil Co. yesterday, apparently to try to force the government to pay for development projects in their region. An explosive device that went off at dawn set the pipeline owned by the Dallas-based company ablaze, according to a tribal official. There were no reports of casualties. The pipeline carries oil from the Safer field in Marib province to a port on the Red Sea. Hunt officials estimated the leak at about 1,500 barrels.

### 'Endeavour' crew focuses on space station interior

HOUSTON (Reuters) – Shuttle *Endeavour* astronauts were to enter the dark and chilly confines of the International Space Station for the first time yesterday, after two spacewalks to link the outpost's initial working components. Once inside, the astronauts were to mark the moment by simply switching on the lights.

"It will be dark when they first go in," said lead flight director Bob Castle. "There are three light switches and they know where they are." Heaters in the Unity module have been working since Monday to chase out the cold of space, but the interior temperature could be 60 degrees Fahrenheit when the astronauts get inside.

The crew will carry a remote camera on board and Castle says "you will probably see a tour of the space station."

### Fired historian to seek Gingrich US House seat

ATLANTA (Reuters) – A historian who was hired, and then abruptly fired, four years ago, by US House Speaker Newt Gingrich, said yesterday she would be a candidate for his Georgia congressional seat.

Christina Jeffrey was hired by Gingrich to be House of Representatives historian, after a Republican sweep in the November 1994 congressional elections. She was fired after one week on the job after Gingrich learnt a newspaper planned a story about controversial comments she made concerning a 1987 Department of Education course on the Holocaust.

## UN court jails Bosnian, setting rape as war crime

THE HAGUE – A UN court sentenced a former Bosnian Croat paramilitary commander to 10 years in prison yesterday in a historic judgment that was the first to deal exclusively with rape as a war crime.

The International Criminal Tribunal for former Yugoslavia found Anto Furundzija, 29, guilty of two counts of violations of the laws or customs of war for standing by while another paramilitary beat and raped a female detainee during an interrogation in 1993.

Furundzija headed a unit called "The Jokers," which operated near the central Bosnian city of Vitez during the 1992-1995 Bosnia war.

He stood impassively as Presiding Judge Florence Mumba read the pronouncement to the packed chamber.

Prosecutors hailed the verdict, which coincided with the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

"It is fitting that the judgement in the Prosecutor versus Anto Furundzija was delivered [on this day]. It is an important decision because it demonstrates that acts of rape will be dealt with seriously," the prosecution said in a statement.

"The sentence imposed sends a powerful message that war crimes of this nature will not be tolerated."

The defense took a different view. Emerging from the courtroom, Furundzija's lawyer Luka Misetic said he was stunned.

"We will appeal – we are truly shocked by both the decision and the sentence in this case," he told reporters.

The prosecution's case against Furundzija hinged on the testimony of the victim, identified only as Witness A. The defense contended her memory was flawed because of her ordeal.

"It is a fact of this case that every piece of evidence contradicted the testimony of the main witness," Misetic said.

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## Trimble, Hume accept Nobel Peace Prize

OSLO (Reuters) – Northern Ireland's rival communal leaders John Hume and David Trimble received the Nobel Peace Prize yesterday, saying they accepted it on behalf of all who had struggled to end conflict in the British province.

Protestant Trimble and Catholic Hume vowed support for the Good Friday Agreement, signed by a range of rival groups last April in a bid to end 30 years of guerrilla war.

"There is now, in Ireland, a passionate sense of moving to a new beginning," Hume, a moderate nationalist who leads the Social Democratic and Labor Party, said at the presentation ceremony held in the ornate grandeur of Oslo City Hall.

Trimble, the province's first minister and leader of pro-British Unionists, said the province had "a peace of sorts but it is still something of an armed peace."

Trimble, who rallied a majority of the Protestant population behind the agreement in a referendum in May, said: "I am happy and honored to accept the prize on behalf of all the peace-makers from throughout the British Isles and farther afield who made the Belfast Agreement at Stormont that Good Friday."

The award is the latest in a chain of landmark events which have marked the province's quest to establish stability following truces declared by Protestant and Catholic extremists.

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## Clinton in Gaza

Tomorrow night President Bill Clinton will arrive in Israel on the way to his historic address before the Palestinian National Council (PNC) in Gaza. Impolite grumbling by some Israeli ministers notwithstanding, Clinton should be welcomed, not shunned. Relations between Americans, Palestinians and Israelis are not a zero-sum game. Clinton's speech to the Palestinians is an opportunity to urge a reshaping of Palestinian nationalism away from destruction and violence and toward living with Israel.

Though he may be circumspect about timing with Clinton in the room, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat will no doubt continue to lay the groundwork for (again) declaring a Palestinian state. In a way, the very presence of an American president on Palestinian-controlled territory will make the meeting in Gaza a dry run for such a declaration.

Whenever Arafat does renew his declaration of statehood, he will no doubt have a picture of David Ben-Gurion, 50 years ago, in mind. Whether or not this event happens next May, Arafat will want history to echo with his words, and to feel the exhilaration of creating reality, come what may.

Like Ben-Gurion, Arafat will make his declaration before the borders of his state are defined. Unlike Ben-Gurion, Arafat will be assured of widespread international recognition, and will not face the danger of his state being snuffed out by its hostile neighbors at birth.

Though it will be impossible to escape the ironic similarities between the births of Israel and Palestine, there is a critical difference that threatens the moral legitimacy, physical security, and economic viability of the nascent Palestinian state. That difference is embodied in the contrast between Israel's Declaration of Independence and the Palestinian National Covenant, also called the PLO Charter.

Israel's Declaration of Independence cites the religious, historic, and legal basis for the creation of the national homeland of the Jewish people in the Land of Israel. Israel's founding document does not negate the existence or cause of any other nation, rather, it offers to "implement" the United Nations General Assembly resolution of November 29, 1947, which attempted to create two nations in mandatory Palestine, one Arab and one Jewish.

In addition, the Declaration of Independence appeals to the local Arab inhabitants to participate in the building of the new state, and offers to "... extend our hand to all neighboring states and their peoples in an offer of peace and good neighborliness ..."

The Palestinian National Covenant, by contrast, defines Palestinian nationalism as a nega-

tion of Jewish nationalism in general, and Israel's existence in particular. Article 19, for example, flatly states that "The partition of Palestine in 1947 and the establishment of the state of Israel are entirely illegal, regardless of the passage of time ..." Article 20 declares, incredibly, that "Claims of historical or religious ties of Jews with Palestine are incompatible with the facts of history." And according to Article 22, Zionism is "racist and fanatic in its nature" and destroying Israel will "contribute to the establishment of peace in the Middle East."

On Monday, some portion of the PNC will vote, probably with a show of hands, to affirm that these offending clauses of the Covenant have been deleted. As important as this step is, however, the legalisms surrounding the Covenant's amendment should not be allowed to obscure the need for a much deeper adjustment process to take place.

The question is whether the PLO Covenant, written in the 1960s as a manifesto of a terrorist organization and full of anachronistic revolutionary screed, still reflects the spirit of Palestinian nationalism, or whether that nationalism can mature into something different.

What does it mean, for example, to delete the phrase "armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine" from the PLO Covenant, if at the same moment the Palestinian Authority is organizing violent rioting to tip its hand in negotiations? What does it mean to accept Israel's right to exist if, according to official Palestinian Authority documents, declarations, school books, and its web site, "Palestine" includes all of Israel and its capital is Jerusalem?

The core problem of the peace process at this moment is that the Palestinians have adopted the trappings of coexistence, without abandoning the trappings of destruction. The cost of trying to have it both ways is high for Israel, but much higher for the Palestinians themselves. Israel, after all, is a strong and prosperous country, and can adapt to the prospect of a "cold peace" and, in a worst-case scenario, protect itself against a Palestinian state that attempts to precipitate a general war. It is the Palestinians, however, who will pay most dearly for the refusal to embrace coexistence: first at the negotiating table and then as Palestinian-Israeli relations remain tragically stunted.

The challenge before President Clinton in Gaza is to convince the Palestinians to go beyond the technicalities of amending the Covenant to the more fundamental process of amending Palestinian nationalism. Though the loudest demands for such a process come from Israel, Palestinians should not be fooled: the benefits of abandoning the destructive side of their nationalism will go first and foremost to themselves.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SHABBAT TRADING

Sir, - A judge rules that kibbutz businesses are able to open on Shabbat and the prime minister says he is shocked by the decision. The high priests of secularism immediately accuse him of pandering to his coalition partners. Does it never occur to the self-proclaimed guardians of our freedom that his response was that of a normal individual.

A lot of people, religious and secular, do not want Shabbat turned into an ordinary working day. If kibbutz industries are allowed to open, how long before

the supermarket chains will want to get in on the act and this will, in turn, force the already hard-pressed local grocery stores to follow suit, shortly followed by almost every business. As has happened in England with the repeal of the Sunday trading law. Do people really want to go to job interviews to be told that, of course, they don't have to work on Shabbat but... with a question mark hanging in the air.

We need Shabbat. Whether we use it for going to the synagogue or taking the family for a picnic.

We need one day a week when we are free from the weekday round. Maybe the people, who say that they care so much about our freedom and dignity, should ponder the value of an enlightened law, promulgated thousands of years ago and predating trade unionism, that gave the same one day a week 'off' to all the people.

All of us, secular and religious, should unite to save our Shabbat.

YEHUDIT COLLINS

Jerusalem.

### POLITICAL PRISONERS

Sir, - Many thanks are due to The Jerusalem Post for the exhaustive explanation by Ben Lyndfield of the anguish of the families of Palestinian security prisoners in "Crimes and punishment" (December 4).

Especially illustrative was the case of Juma Musa, imprisoned for expressing his devotion to the Palestinian cause by hacking to death a prostitute five years ago, when he was 54 (old enough to know better). The case is a paradigm for most other security cases.

For the family to wish Juma to

return home is understandable. For them, or Palestinians in general, to demand in public for the release - as a matter of right - of a man who struck a blow for the independent Palestinian state by the bloody murder of a woman who probably had enough problems in her life without dabbling in politics, is a level of hutzpah unknown in the civilized world.

STAN GOODMAN

Kiryat Tivon.

### MR.'S NAIVETE

Sir, - I was quite astonished to again measure the naivete of Knesset members in their expression of regret that President Bill Clinton will not address the Knesset plenum while he will attend the meeting of the Palestinian National Council in Gaza.

Clinton's gesture is fully in line with the legal stance of the State Department from 1947 onwards. It simply depicts that the only entity officially recognized is that of Palestine.

H. MELKMAN

Jerusalem.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On December 11, 1933, The Palestine Post reported that five young Revisionists were arrested in Tel Aviv in connection with an illegal meeting and a violent demonstration. The Mayor of Tel Aviv, Mr. Dizengoff, expressed sympathy for a number of policemen injured during the riot, but Labor members on the municipal council complained that the government's immigration policy and the hunt for tourists who over-

stayed their visas created an atmosphere of bitterness among the Jewish community.

50 years ago: On December 11, 1948, The Palestine Post reported that the UN General Assembly had adopted a Resolution designed to omit all references to both the Partition Resolution of November 29, 1947, and the Bernadotte Plan and had appointed a Palestine Conciliation

Commission, represented by France, Turkey and the US.

25 years ago: ON December 11, 1973, The Jerusalem Post reported that modern Soviet tanks, as well as artillery and other weapons captured during the October war, were already in Israel's service on both the Syrian and Egyptian fronts.

Alexander Zvielli

"Could you come down the chimney?"



## Netanyahu needs Wye...

NAOMI CHAZAN

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has frozen the Wye agreement. He is now threatening to abrogate it entirely. If he does so, he will imperil Israel's foremost interests. He will also, although much less significantly, hurt his own personal aspirations.

Netanyahu announced the halt in the implementation of the accords in Jerusalem, as rumors spread that Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon was reiterating the same policy change in Washington. The voice that so arrogantly delivered the message from the Knesset podium on Monday night was undoubtedly that of the prime minister, but the accompanying body language made it abundantly clear that the hands that crafted the text were those of the Oslo opponents who threatened to topple the government they themselves had ushered into office.

By agreeing to act as the spokesman for the so-called Land of Israel Front, Netanyahu not only mortgaged the peace process to the cause of sustaining his failing coalition, he also became its prisoner. His acquiescence to the blatant manipulations of the renegades within his own government may have bought Netanyahu another brief respite, but he probably paid a stiffer electoral price than he realizes.

The precariousness of this government is evident even to the prime minister. Every time he succumbs to the far Right to keep him-

self in office, he risks losing his moderates. There is a limit to how often even Netanyahu can maneuver with impunity between rejectionist right-wing elements in his coalition and the vast majority of Israelis - represented by members of the coalitions and the opposition, who want the peace process to

Netanyahu needs Wye.

MUCH MORE pertinently, Israel can hardly do without Wye at this juncture. Failure to fulfill the timetable laid out in the accords poses a security threat of the highest order.

The escalation of unrest in the past

...but it is now abundantly clear that Wye - and by extension Israel - may do much better without Netanyahu

be successfully concluded.

Last week, Netanyahu, fearing a right-wing revolt, engaged in shameless machinations to bring David Levy into the government, cynically offering to sacrifice his staunchest ally, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, on the altar of his political survival.

Elections will most probably take place within the next few months. If Netanyahu hopes to be reelected, he knows full well that he must speak to the mainstream. And the only way to do so effectively is to carry out the obligations he assumed in the signing ceremony in Washington. Should he renege on these undertakings, his electoral prospects are dim. Whether he likes it or not,

week is a grim and sobering indication that the patience of our negotiating partner is about to be stretched beyond any reasonable limits. It is also a frightening reminder that there are no non-violent alternatives to the negotiating process.

The agreements are also vital to Israel's domestic well-being. The economy is at a standstill. Regional and governmental stability is essential to avert further economic regression and to encourage trade and investment. Economic malaise, compounded by the political inability to pass next year's budget, only exacerbates the growing tension within Israeli society, none of which has been seriously addressed in recent months. The goal of socio-economic

rehabilitation will never be achieved by jettisoning the promise of peace.

Needless to say, Israel continues to rely, as in the past, on international support and especially on American backing. Not only is President Bill Clinton heavily invested in the Oslo process, so too, is the US as the leading world power.

The present government of Israel cannot expect to brazenly toy with Washington forever without suffering consequences that may adversely undermine Israel's immediate and long-term interests.

Clinton's perseverance is particularly praiseworthy under these circumstances. His presence in the region is doubly welcome: first, because he may once again put the Wye understanding back on course, and second, because he may be able to restore some of the momentum so casually and irresponsibly discarded in recent weeks.

Here again, however, it is unclear how much longer Israel can expect the US to come to its rescue when its own leaders fail to do so.

Thus, even though Netanyahu may need Wye, it is now abundantly clear that Wye - and by extension Israel - may do much better without Netanyahu. The current situation only presages movement from crisis.

The time has come to put Netanyahu and his policies to the test by the only democratic means available - new elections.

## The limits of evenhandedness

MOSHE ZAK

Neither President Bill Clinton's address at the cultural center in Gaza, nor his lighting the Christmas tree in Bethlehem represent a change in America's opposition to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian state, as some cabinet members wrongly thought.

Those ministers aren't aware that only a few days ago, the US delegation at the UN General Assembly battled against indirect recognition of Palestine as a state. The US succeeded in deleting the word "Palestine" from a resolution congratulating Bethlehem on its preparations for the millennium.

The ministers did not realize that their public criticism of Clinton's visit succeeded in blowing up its importance. The vote on Bethlehem isn't the only UN vote in which the US has stood firm by Israel. And its significance is understood by many countries in the UN, but the report from this week's cabinet meeting shows that some ministers who recommended that Clinton stay home don't understand this.

There is no call for fanfare - the change in the resolution will not save Israel in the diplomatic struggle

awaiting it in the coming months. But one shouldn't belittle the influence of American support for Israel on other countries. Even those who voted against Israel understand that it isn't alone, and that they should stay within bounds when condemning Israel, in order not to interfere with the peace process.

There is no reason for concern that Clinton's visit to Gaza and his speech to Palestinian institutions imply recognition of a Palestinian state. This isn't the reason for the visit. When the suggestion was made for the first time at Wye Plantation, as a kind of thinking aloud, its proposers toyed with the idea of both Clinton and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addressing the Palestinian National Council to persuade its members to annul the clauses in the Palestinian covenant calling for the destruction of Israel.

Of course, the Palestinians didn't want a speech by Netanyahu, so only Clinton was left. The idea of an official visit grew out of this. Instead of trying to reduce its importance, many Israeli politicians rushed to the media to

express concern that this was discrimination against Israel, and by doing so they scored an own goal.

The politicians were drawn into keeping score - how long would Clinton stay in Gaza and how long in Jerusalem - and trying to ensure similar ceremonies in Israel and Gaza. The attempt to maintain evenhandedness between the Gaza and Jerusalem insults Israel, and damages its image. It's appropriate that Clinton won't be addressing the Knesset, but speaking in a theater, because a theater in Jerusalem is equivalent to a hall in the cultural center in Gaza.

THERE IS no reason to compound the serious mistake in the Wye agreement, which created evenhandedness between Israel and the Palestinians on the questions of terrorism and incitement. The mention in the same breath of organized Palestinian terrorism and isolated actions by crazy Israelis can't be erased from the signed agreement, but there is no need to make a point of preserving evenhandedness all along the

road, whether in ceremonies or in diplomatic actions.

Even if there were serious cause for concern that the Clinton administration is abandoning its policy of support for Israel, it wouldn't be wise to protest this. Such protests damage Israel's deterrent ability, its image, and its credibility. Especially when it isn't true.

Clinton hasn't changed his attitude to Israel. We haven't forgotten that only a short time ago, he once again committed himself to the memorandum of agreement that he signed with Netanyahu to maintain Israel's qualitative edge.

The US recognizes that it is highly dangerous to preserve evenhandedness between Israel and any individual Arab country. America's open support for Israel promises that opponents of peace in Arab countries won't be tempted to seize power and start a war.

The preservation of peace demands that both Washington and Jerusalem take care not to provoke artificial disputes between them. Differences of opinion on the protocol of Clinton's visit don't justify the joy in Gaza and the happiness in Kamalah. They haven't managed to thrust a wedge between Jerusalem and Washington.

## The last leverage

EPHRAIM SNEH

includes a confidential clause which allows for cooperation beyond the Bushhr plant.

The theoretic regime in Tehran sponsors world-wide Islamic terrorism and actively opposes the Middle East peace process. If this regime has the capacity of striking countries in the Gulf region, the Middle East, and southern Europe with weapons of mass destruction, the stability of those regions is in danger and so are US allies and interests.

The IMF is known for the tough conditions it imposes on countries applying for financial aid. Most governments, realizing that they will not receive any aid if they do not comply with the demands, accept the IMF's terms.

The IMF could make a notable contribution to peace and stability in the Middle East if, for once, it were to impose a non-economic condition on aid to a potential recipient. It should demand that Russia promptly stop assistance of any kind to the Iranian ballistic missile program and halt all involvement in nuclear projects in

Iran, unless they are clearly of a civilian nature.

THE US has a say in IMF decisions. The Iranian missile project is nearing a point of no return, and the US will not have such leverage on Iran again in the foreseeable future. Using this leverage would be a test of its resolve to deny rogue states weapons of mass destruction and long-range missiles.

But what does Israel do? Is Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu acting on this issue with the required determination? So far, his response has been disappointing. In February, in his reply to my question in the Knesset, Netanyahu said that the most urgent effort is to stop Russian support of the Iranian missile project through high-level pressure.

This effort has been a failure. According to Israeli intelligence reports, the flow of Russian missiles and nuclear technology to Iran has been not reduced at all.

In fact, Netanyahu is probably incapable of moving the US administration to vigorous action.

His agenda with President Clinton is dominated to a large extent by the details of his bickering with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The atmosphere between Jerusalem and Washington is currently tense as a result of the conditions recently added by Netanyahu to the Wye Memorandum, the suspension of its implementation, and the undiplomatic discussions by the cabinet on the question of who invited Clinton to Israel. Strategic issues are not on the US-Israeli agenda right now.

In any event, Clinton will arrive here tomorrow night and it is high time for the prime minister to deal responsibly with matters of national security. In his meeting with Clinton, Netanyahu has to ask him to use the leverage of the IMF grant on Russian Prime Minister Yeghny Primakov.

Even though this issue has no relevance to the survival of Netanyahu's coalition, it is crucial to the survival of Israel.

The writer, a Labor MK and reserve general, is currently chairman of the Knesset subcommittee on national security policy.

סוכן מן הארץ



**YOSSI BEN-AHARON**

The single most influential exponent of faith in this country, for example, is a man who displays an apparently endless capacity for incomprehensibility. I do not mention him by name, and if you have to struggle to think which of the various incomprehensible religious leaders I have in mind this only



**GERALD M. STEINBERG**

**AMERICAN** responses to the  
palestinian demonstrations over

Scenarios need to be considered and contingency plans developed. At what point does Palestinian

there is a critical need to define common red lines and options when these lines are crossed.

**JONATHAN ROSENBLUM**

LITURGICAL MUSIC IN JERUSALEM  
17/12/1998 - 10/1/1999

**MICHAEL WARMUR**

To which Jewish denomination does Alice Shalvi belong? I hardly know her personally, but I guess that if she were asked she might reply in a manner similar to that of Abraham Joshua Heschel, who answered this inquiry with the declaration: "I do not regard myself as a noun in search of an adjective."

FOR THOSE of us who take weeks to formulate ideas and months to commit them to paper, the Shalvi phenomenon is sobering. She tells of the six weeks it took her to write the first draft of her doctoral thesis—in that time most contemporary doctoral students are hard-pressed to lay the initial groundwork for a reading list.

Toward the end of the movie, Police Shalvi reflects that had she not come to live in Israel, her life would probably have been far more predictable and "comfortable," but far less challenging and fulfilling. It is easy to forget in these days of disillusionment and disappointment that for some, a life devoted to social

*The writer, a rabbi, is dean at the Hebrew Union College in Jerusalem.*

**LITURGICAL MUSIC IN JERUSALEM**  
17/12/1998 - 10/1/1999

**יטורגיקה**

**LITURGICA**

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**Festive Masses** 17.12.98

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Uziel Segal, conductor; International soloists, Karaiskarakantorei Kōin,  
The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA  
Henry Crown Symphony Hall, 8.30 p.m.

**Happy Birthday Gala** 28.12.98

Beethoven: Symphony No. 9; Mozart: Sinfonia concertante  
for violin and viola; Yoram Loef: Viol. concerto (world premiere)  
David Shalton, conductor; International soloists, Mozart Choir  
Luzon, The Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra, IBA  
Jerusalem International Convention Center, 8.30 p.m.

Also at the Liturgica: Four Regions, Britain, War Regions, Haydn: Masses, From the  
Symphony to the Stage - David Hirsch, Britain, Ave Maria; Carmina Bucaria, The Youth Song  
Movement, Organ Recital; Four Children of Chicago, Bach: Motets with the Tolk Boys Choir; A  
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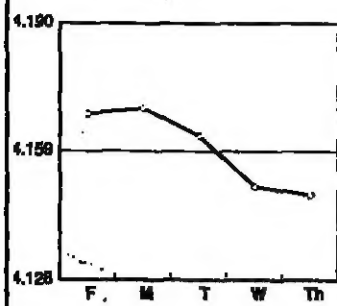
David Shalton, Music Director 1979-1982, 1987



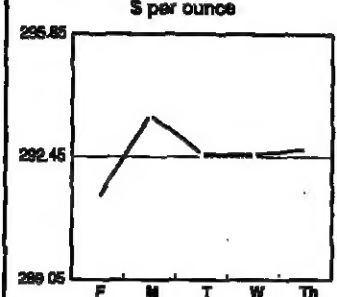
## MARKETS

in brief

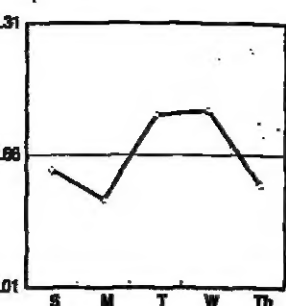
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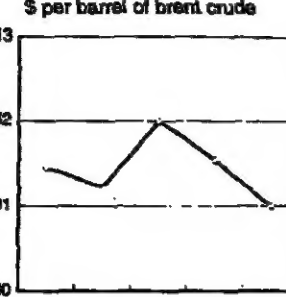
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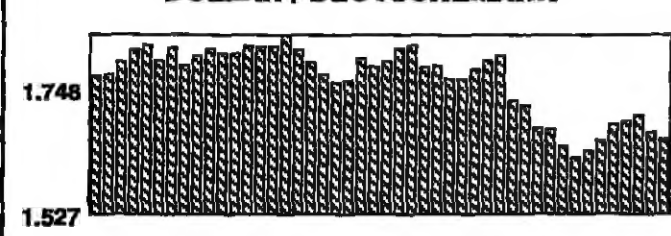
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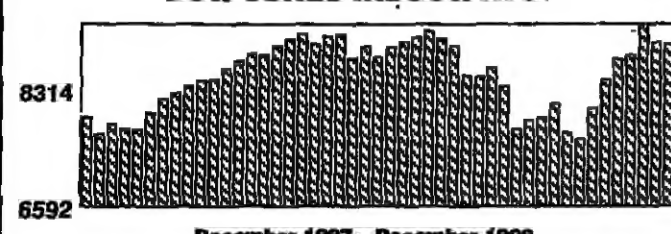
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## BITS & BYTES

By NICKY BLACKBURN

### Elron buys shares in Aladdin after EliaShim sale

Multinational high-tech holding company Elron Electronic Industries is to acquire shares in Aladdin Knowledge Systems following the recent sale of EliaShim in a deal worth an estimated \$23 million in cash and stock. Aladdin, a global leader in the field of software information security, announced earlier this week that it had acquired the assets of EliaShim and its subsidiaries, US-based eSafe Technologies and eSafe Europe, which produced the award-winning eSafe Protect suite of Internet security products.

Under the terms of the agreement EliaShim is to receive 1,240,000 shares in Aladdin and \$6.5 million in cash. An additional sum of up to \$5 million may become payable to EliaShim depending on its 1999 earnings.

Elron owns about 15 percent of the issued shares of EliaShim, and as a result of the deal will receive about 340,000 shares in Aladdin and \$700,000 in cash. The company will record a gain of about \$1 million in 1999 as a result of the transaction.

With its new acquisition Aladdin plans to form an Internet Security Unit, with eSafe at the core, focused on developing integrated desktop-to-gateway Internet security solutions.

The acquisition marks a change of strategy for Aladdin. Originally focused on software security, the company is now moving into the broader Enterprise Internet Security market.

### Magic replaces Club Med computer system

Magic Software Enterprises has signed an agreement worth more than \$1.2 million to replace the computer systems of vacation chain Club Med worldwide. The company, which specializes in Rapid Application Development and Deployment (RADDD) tools and is based on Wall Street, is to install its system in 120 branches of Club Med worldwide, enabling the company to manage all of its activities at the vacation spots, including registration of guests, sports and entertainment activities, and accounting.

The new system has the capability to deal with Europe's new currency, the Euro, which is due to be introduced gradually starting from next year, and also provides a solution to the Year 2000 problem. The first stage of the agreement is worth \$1.2 million.

### Crystal launches conversion tool JavaMaker

Crystal Systems Solutions this week launched JavaMaker, a legacy software migration tool. JavaMaker provides for the automatic conversion of legacy mainframe COBOL applications to Java, Oracle 8, or Network Computing Architecture multi-tier client/server applications, enabling full deployment of traditional legacy applications in modern environments such as the Internet, Intranet, and Web. It is a fully customizable conversion tool designed for use by an organization's internal IT staff or by a system integration partner.

# Givot Olam shares soar on oil find

By NICKY BLACKBURN  
and DAVID ZEEV HARRIS

Givot Olam Oil Exploration Limited Partnership has struck oil at a site near Rosh Ha'ayin, it was announced yesterday, but industry skeptics suggest it's too soon to get excited.

The company's shares jumped 32 percent to NIS 2.32 yesterday, having been worth only NIS 1.00 last Thursday. The initial climb was sparked by a report in *The Jerusalem Post* at the start of the week that a find was imminent.

Givot Olam confirmed that the fluid gushing through a pipe at the Meged-2 bore is high quality oil from the Paleozoic oil basin.

The company decided to retest the 15-meter site at a depth of 4,365m., using a process of acidization. Meged-2 was originally drilled in 1994, and oil was discovered but in non-commercial quantities.

Five kilometers to the west at moshav Elishama, just south of Kfar Sava, the company believes the oil deposit reaches a thickness of 300 meters. In a year's time the company hopes to begin drilling there. That location, known as Meged-3 is thought to contain 1 billion barrels and 4 trillion cubic feet of natural gas.

"If this proves to be the case, there will be enough oil for Israel to last your lifetime and mine," said Tuvia Luskin, the company's senior scientist and director.

Work started on Meged-2 Tuesday afternoon, and the well began producing hydrocarbon gas at a rate of 400 barrels a day. On

Wednesday, a 10-meter gas flame burned at the site.

Luskin said that this was the first time Paleozoic oil had been discovered in Israel. "It is completely different from any other oil found in Israel before," he said.

The Paleozoic basin, which is the source of oil throughout Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries is one of the largest oil-producing basins in the world.

The company will float a rights issue on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange Wednesday and Thursday to try to raise \$4m. for drilling the Meged-3 well. A previous attempt to raise money overseas failed to produce enough income.

An industry expert, however, expressed some reserve, pointing out there have previously been 400 oil finds in Israel, none of which have borne substantial fruit. The source said he thought it "suspicious" that the company began retesting an oil well one week before the public offering.

"This drilling was done a long time ago and the company has had a great deal of time to retest the well," he said.

"There has been a huge increase in the value of the stock, which leads to a suspicion that all this excitement was created just to increase the value of the shares and prepare the ground for raising money."

He said that investment in oil is "100 percent total risk."

If the latest issue fails, Givot Olam, which spent \$1m. on the new test at Meged-2, will be left with just \$500,000.



A worker allows some oil to flow onto the ground from Givot Olam's Meged-2 site near Rosh Ha'ayin yesterday. (Gideon Markovitz)

## Olympic to reduce presence here

By HAIM SHAPIRO

In an effort to cut costs, Olympic Airlines may close its office in Tel Aviv and use a local general sales agent, Alex Rabino, the company's local manager, said yesterday.

He said that even if the company does shut down the office, this does not mean it would stop its flights here. "We'll keep flying. In fact, we intend to increase the number of flights to Israel," he said.

He added that closing was one possible option, the other being to reduce the number of staff. He said that he will be going to Athens today to discuss the matter with company officials.

In a related development, Lufthansa has announced that Israel is to have one of the 10 international telephone centers to which passengers calls are to be routed from around the world. At the centers, operators book flights, issue and sell tickets, arrange for telephone check-in, and provide information on Lufthansa and its Star Alliance partners.

Lufthansa Israel spokesman Yitzhak Zaroni said the development was part of Lufthansa's effort to cut costs by streamlining operations. He said Israel has been chosen because of the high level of communications technology and the availability of a large potential work force with a wide knowledge of languages.

## El Al: Breakthrough in American Airlines talks

By HAIM SHAPIRO

In what the company sees as a breakthrough in efforts to initiate a code-sharing deal with American Airlines, El Al chairman Yosef Ciechanover met on Wednesday with US Secretary of Transport Rodney Slater to discuss the issue.

He was accompanied by director-general Yoel Feldshuh and Ambassador to the US Zelman Shoval. The agreement means flights operated by one company would be listed by the other as their own flights, with their own flight numbers. El Al reached agreement with American Airlines three years ago but the US Civil Aviation Authority has blocked the deal.

The US authorities have given as their reason the fact that Israel has not given the go-ahead for a similar code-sharing deal between KLM and Northwest Airlines. But authorities here say the two cases are not parallel. The El Al-American Airlines deal, they say, involves airlines from two countries, while the other involves airlines from two

countries flying to a third one.

According to El Al spokesman Nachman Kleiman, the Americans have now indicated there is a basis on which it is possible to reach a deal. Kleiman said Slater expressed the hope that aviation ties between Israel and the US would be increased and that the Israeli proposals constituted the basis for an overall solution of the problem.

On Wednesday, the two sides agreed that Israel would again submit its proposals for revising the aviation agreement between the two countries and that this would be the basis for future talks.

Kleiman said code-sharing was important both for El Al and to encourage tourism because it would enable an American traveler to buy one ticket to Israel from any destination serviced by American Airlines, using the El Al hubs of Chicago and New York. This, he said, would not only make the ticket cheaper, but would make it possible for the passenger to use the ticket in either the El Al or American Airlines frequent flyer program.

## Report: TASE firms' sales up despite slump

By DAN GERSTENFELD

The profitability of companies traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange increased in the first nine months of the year, despite the economic slowdown, according to a report released yesterday by United Mizrahi Bank.

Analyst Yossi Borochov and Dorit Cohen noted that sales have also increased by some 2.8 percent in the January-September period compared to the same period last year. The rise is higher than the 1.1% increase recorded in the first nine months of 1997.

At the same time gross profitability rose to 29.3% of sales, compared with about 28.8% and 24.8% in the corresponding period in 1997 and 1996 respectively.

The analysts attributed the improved profitability to a worldwide decline in raw materials prices, and the economic recession which induced companies to introduce efficiency measures.

The economists added, however,

that operating profitability rates have declined 0.2% to 8.8% of sales, as many companies had to increase their selling, administrative, and general expenses, because of the economic slowdown - with companies finding it difficult to improve their operating efficiency any further.

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## Dusty document, or living covenant?

As legislators meet to nullify parts of the Palestinian charter, Ben Lynfield explores what the document means to Palestinians today

When Fayed Abu Rahme helped put the finishing touches on the Palestinian charter in May 1964, he thought it would contribute to Palestinian unity.

Now 69 and a legal adviser to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, Abu Rahme recalls grappling with the document for six feverish days, then staying up all night with a group of colleagues to complete the 29-article charter. He was chosen for the task by the charter's author, PLO founder Ahmed Shukeiry, a fiery orator who vehemently opposed Israel's existence.

Abu Rahme never thought that the document would become significant, but it has, in some sense, into the core of Israeli-Palestinian mistrust. As a result of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's insistence that the charter be changed,

the Palestine National Council (PNC) and members of other nationalist groupings will convene next week - under the watchful eyes of US President Bill Clinton - to delete clauses that contradict the PLO's recognition of Israel.

Some of the clauses date back to Shukeiry's days. They stress Palestinian identity, heap vituperation upon Zionism and reject the partitioning of Palestine and the establishment of Israel. They include clauses added in 1968 - following Yasser Arafat's takeover of the PLO - that call for an armed struggle and command action to liberate Palestine.

Abu Rahme, a soft-spoken man who emerged as a key Fatah moderate during the 1980s, says that even in 1964 he and his colleagues did not view the clauses referring to Israel's destruction as guidelines. "Nobody thought

Israel would vanish. It is a mode of all [national] movements to plant enthusiastic idioms to cultivate, mobilize and attract people," he said.

Abu Rahme says he broke definitively with the charter in 1986, when he became convinced that it posed an obstacle to achieving tangible gains through diplomacy.

"It was not helpful to stick to a certain formula. I thought the formulas should be opened up to give negotiations a chance for success." In subsequent years, the number of adherents to that view grew steadily, especially as the Palestinians moved into direct talks with Israel.

In 1996, the PNC voted 504 to 54 with 14 abstentions to revoke the clauses that contradicted mutual recognition and to refer the charter to a legal committee for amendment. The Labor government of Shimon Peres accepted the vote as fulfillment of the Palestinian commitment to change the charter - part of the Oslo agreement.

But right-wing analysts and politicians dismissed the step as incomplete, stressing that specific articles were not annulled. Moreover, Peace Watch, a monitoring group, pointed to a document written by Arafat's Fatah movement that referred to the charter as "frozen" rather than nullified.

Not wanting to be seen as giving in to Israel, Arafat moved slowly in addressing the skeptics. But in January of this year, he took a step which he said would put the matter to rest, sending a letter to Clinton specifying which articles of the covenant were nullified.

David Bar-Ilan, Netanyahu's adviser, dismissed the move, saying that only a new PNC vote could make the necessary changes.

As far as Abu Rahme is concerned, however, the old charter and calls for Israel's destruction are gone forever. "It is history," he says.

BUT EVEN if the Gaza meeting reinforces the charter's amendment, relegating it to the history books will not be a simple matter.

Although it is not a widely circulated or even well-known document among the general public, the charter still retains varying degrees of resonance for political activists who are loath to relinquish it under Israeli pressure.

Hussam Khader, a Palestinian



Yasser Arafat and members of the Palestinian central council met in Gaza yesterday to lay the groundwork for Monday's PNC meeting in the presence of Clinton.

legislator, puts it this way: "You need a constitution or something to believe in to give you the power to fight and struggle." The main purpose of the charter, he says, has been to forge unity by

### The Islamic alternative

Hamas, with its stress on Islam, rejects much of the Palestinian charter which is rooted in the idea of a secular national revolution to liberate Palestine.

Still, the Islamic movement is strongly opposed to scrapping clauses of the charter to satisfy Israel, says Abdel Khalik Natshe, a Hamas leader in Hebron. "Despite our differences with those who made the charter, differences regarding religion and other issues, we believe that making concessions to Netanyahu's demands constitutes a humiliation of the Palestinian people," he says.

Natshe does not entirely dismiss the Palestinian charter, saying parts of it serve the Palestinian interest.

But he believes Hamas has a better program, one that ensures a purist line after the PLO recognized and negotiated with Israel.

Hamas published its own charter in 1988, known as the "Islamic charter" or "Islamic covenant" and widely viewed as an alterna-

tive to the PLO charter. Among Hamas's main points: the Palestinian problem can be solved only through jihad; and there is no right to partition Palestine, which is in its entirety waf land, a sacred Islamic endowment.

In other sections, the Hamas charter refers to the existence of an international Jewish conspiracy. "The enemies have been scheming for a long time. Their wealth permitted them to take control of world media and to establish clandestine organizations which are spreading around the world to destroy societies and carry out Zionist interests," it says.

Another part of the charter stresses the movement's determination to bring about social justice and help the needy, an idea that finds expression in Hamas's network of charity organizations in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"Everyone in the Islamic movement must learn it," says Natshe of the Islamic charter.

connecting Palestinians in the territories "with those outside, whether they are in Santiago, the US or Britain."

In Ramallah this week, several activists of the *shabiba*, the youth wing of Arafat's Fatah movement, said the charter embodies a cause that is both just and relevant: the replacement of Israel with a Palestinian state.

"For me, the charter means from the river to the sea: it is my right to Jerusalem and Jaffa," said Ala Rahal, a lanky *shabiba* leader who helped organize demonstrations this week on behalf of Palestinian prisoners.

Another student, who asked not to be identified, said the charter should not be changed now, because, in his view, Israel has failed to implement both the Oslo Accord and the Wye agreement.

"I don't know exactly what it says," he added. "I just know Israel is trying to change it." Rahal said: "The charter will remain in the hearts of Palestinians, whether they change it on paper or not. We will teach it to our children and our children's children."

During the weekly political gatherings Rahal leads, Fatah youth discuss the charter in its original form, without deference to cancellation of clauses.

He knows enough of the document to rattle off what he says are its key points:

- the definitive expulsion of Israel;
- the establishment of a Palestinian state from the Jordan River to the Red Sea;
- Palestinian land belongs to the Palestinians;
- the refugees can return.

But Ghassan Khatib, director of the Jerusalem Media and Communications Center, says, Rahal's attitude is not the norm; in fact, he adds, most young people did not give much thought to the charter before Israel insisted that it be scrapped.

"There is a feeling of humiliation - that we abrogated it and are required to do it again. This is difficult for young people and hotheads to absorb."

Yasser Arafat, as well, did not pay much heed to the document until Israel made it - and kept it - an issue, Khatib says. "He found that suddenly here was something he could get a price for. I think he thought if it was that important for Israelis, we might as well try to get something in return."

In Khatib's view, subsequent Palestinian programs, such as the 1988 acceptance of a negotiated solution emanating from UN resolutions 242 and 338, became an alternative to the charter without abrogating it. They made the charter "irrelevant," he says. Khatib stresses that these initiatives were done by the same body that formulated the charter.

"We didn't think that we needed to cancel it because we look at it as a historical document," said Khatib, who teaches the charter and PNC resolutions at Bir Zeit University. "That's why it wasn't seen as a big problem to make the changes and they were passed by a vast majority."

RAMADAN Safi, top Fatah leader in Megiddo Prison during

the early part of the intifada, recalls that when he taught prisoners the charter, he stressed that attaining Palestinian rights was more important than keeping to the text.

"I taught the historical background and what we mean by each clause, then compared the diplomatic and political [developments] with the clauses," said Safi, a resident of Amari refugee camp, near Ramallah. In the absence of printed copies, the charter was copied by hand and passed around. Hundreds of prisoners studied it, Safi said.

"I said that we must not be dogmatic and [adhere] strictly to the charter, that if we get our rights and have a state and are recognized within 1967 [borders] this means the charter must be formulated again," he said.

But 10 years later, the enabling factors are still not in place, Safi says.

"I'm for changing the charter - but when we have our independent state and our rights are recognized by the UN and other nations," he said.

Changing it under current circumstances would accord recognition to Israel's settlements policy, he added.

IN BALATA refugee camp near Nablus, PLC member Hussam Khader has reached a similar conclusion. As a *shabiba* leader in the 1980s, Khader probably did more than anyone else to spread awareness of the charter, which he likens to the Koran, the Jewish Bible and the New Testament.

Khader first encountered the charter at 14, when he spent 18 days in Nablus Prison and heard older prisoners discussing the document. This was the charter's heyday, when Fatah organized quiz competitions in Balata on the various articles.

"I swear that at that time we had more than 250 young teenagers who could recite the charter by heart," Khader said.

But those days are gone for good, he concedes wistfully. "Those who care about the covenant care only because Israel wants to change it. In the past, more people actually knew what it was. And during the intifada, it helped give the uprising its roots. But now? Nobody cares."

Khader attributes this to an overall loss of idealism among Palestinians that, he says, accompanied the establishment of the Palestinian Authority. People today are focused on their daily bread, not principles, he says.

Like Safi, Khader is particularly concerned about the expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank heartland of the future Palestinian state. The charter can be changed, but not under the current circumstances, he says.

Don't reward Israel as it negates Palestinian aspirations, is Khader's message. To drive the point home, he will be boycotting Monday's meeting in Gaza.



Abu Rahme (Jon Immanuel)

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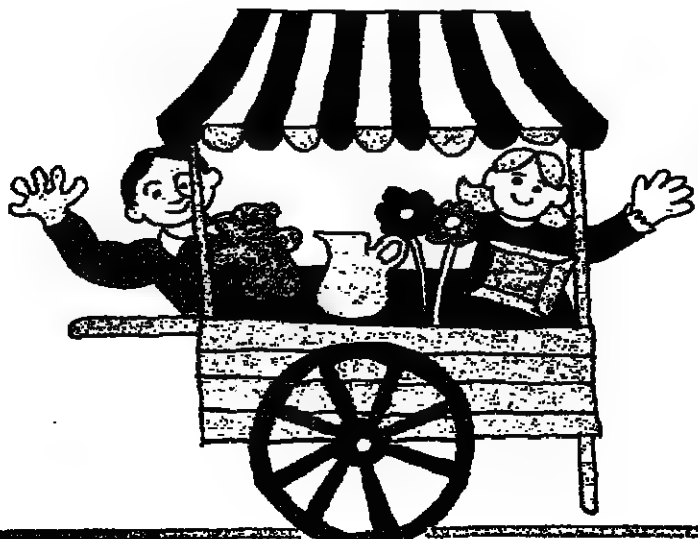
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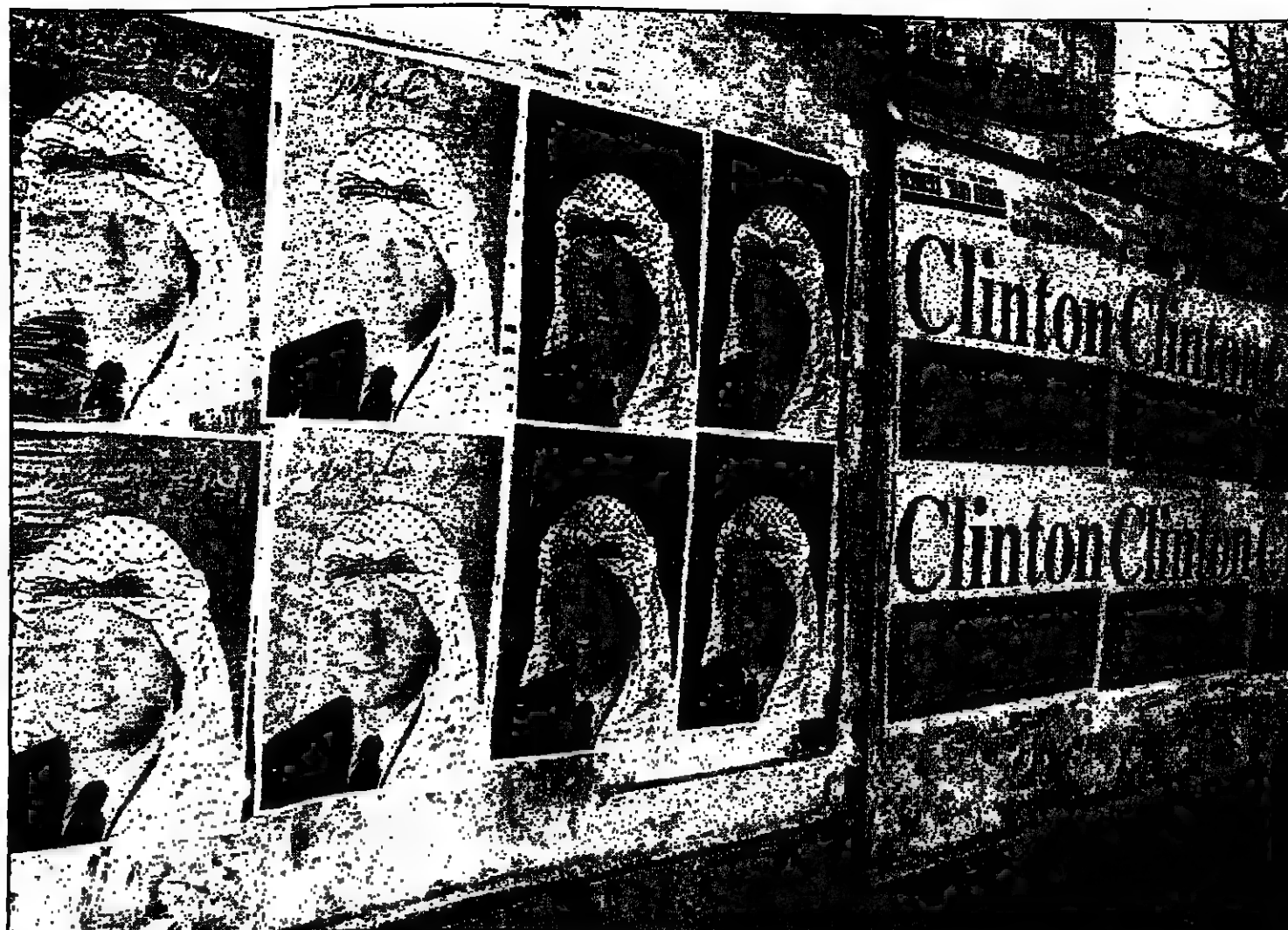
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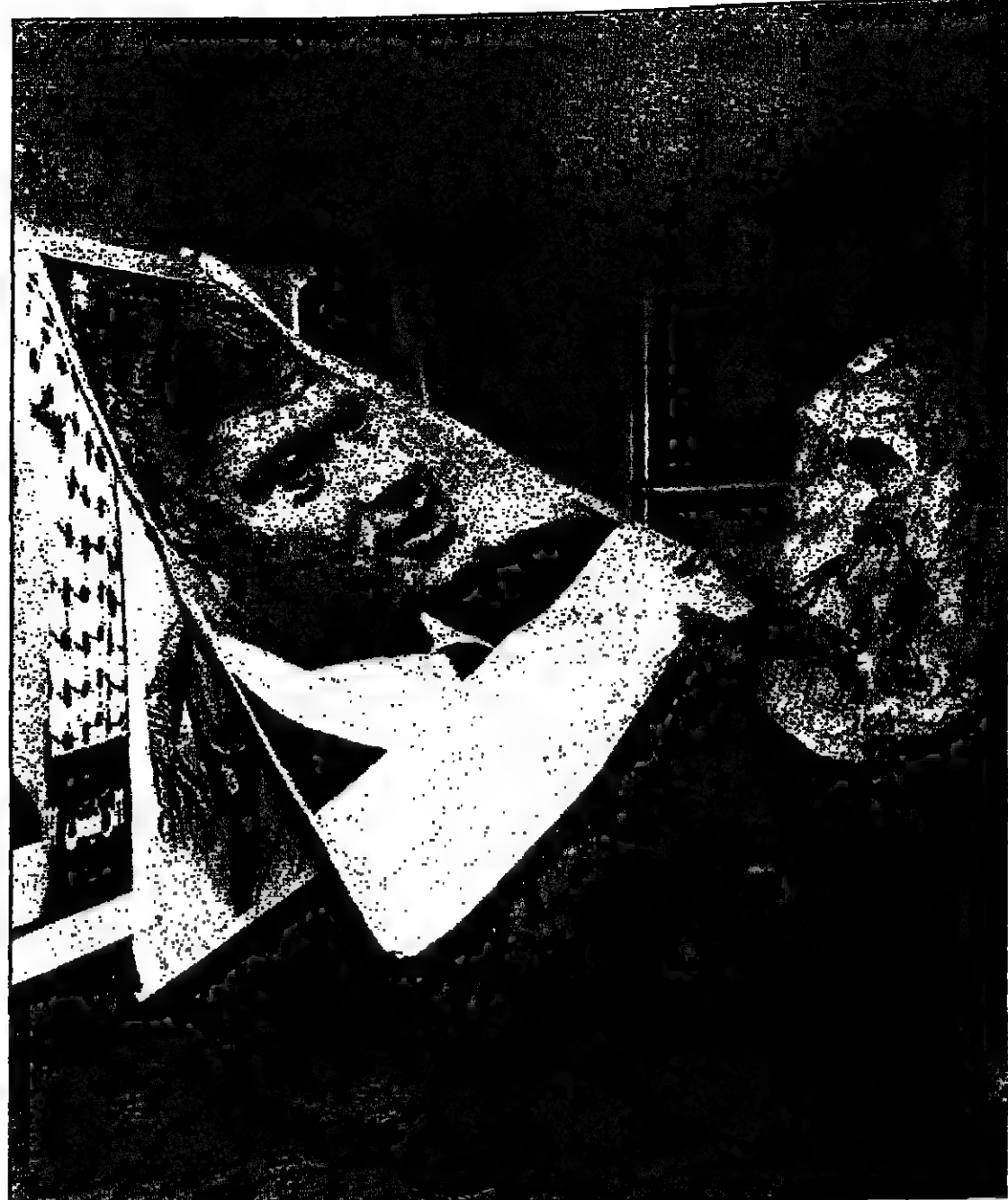


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Department of Public Works employees spent hours yesterday taking down hundreds of posters like these rallying against the Clinton visit, depicting the president in a keffiyeh and telling him to 'Go home.' (Issac Harari)



There's a different mood in Gaza, as Palestinian painter Khamis Abusal dries a copy of his painting of Clinton. (AP)

## The Great Unwelcome

Seven weeks ago, under the gilt chandeliers of the White House East Room, standing before the exhausted Israeli, American and Palestinian negotiators, US President Bill Clinton made a solemn promise.

Not only was he personally committed to the Wye accord he had just mediated, he said, he planned to come to the Middle East to help oversee it.

"Chairman Arafat will invite members of the Palestinian National Council and other important political entities to reaffirm... their support for the peace process."

"I have agreed to address that meeting, several weeks hence, to underscore the values of reconciliation, tolerance and respect, and my support for those commitments and this process."

Jordanian King Hussein beamed. Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat clapped. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu nodded, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai smiled. Foreign Minister Ariel Sharon woke up from his cat nap.

The weeks have passed, and tomorrow night, Clinton, accompanied by his wife Hillary, daughter Chelsea, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Commerce Secretary William Dale, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman, some 20 members of Congress and a plenitude of reporters and staff will touch down at Ben-Gurion Airport.

The region, however, is no chandelier-lit East Room.

The violence on the West Bank is escalating; the security cooperation between the Palestinians and Israelis is waning; security prisoners are on a hunger strike, and Arafat has more than once

Hints this week that Bill Clinton should perhaps stay home were hardly the epitome of etiquette. But they reflected a real fear of what might happen next, Danna Harman writes

talked about declaring a state on May 4.

Both Netanyahu and Sharon have spent the week singing variations on the theme of "We will not implement our part of the deal."

And if that was not enough, the cabinet all but told the leader of the free world to stay home.

ON Sunday, the cabinet gathered for its weekly meeting. Topping the agenda was the clumsy question of — as Science Minister Silvan Shalom bluntly put it — "Whose idea was it to invite Clinton in the first place?"

Early reports pinned the deed on Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. Mordechai's people indicated it was Netanyahu. Several of Netanyahu's assistants whispered it had been Industry and Trade Minister Nathan Sharansky.

The prime minister, who only weeks earlier had energetically presented the idea as his own, said that, actually, Clinton had invited himself. Sharansky backed up Netanyahu.

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan declared Clinton's visit "bad," and called upon Netanyahu to press him not to come. Education Minister

Yitzhak Levy said the naive Clinton had fallen into a Palestinian trap, and better he should stay home.

And Transport Minister Shaul Yahalom, showing great consideration, suggested that Israel explain to Clinton "some things about the overall atmosphere in the Middle East, and maybe he will decide for himself that he does not want to come."

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, meanwhile, called a press conference to say that he would be boycotting all of Clinton's scheduled events to protest the president's decision not to address the Knesset.

Netanyahu — who it is said once went so far as to fly to Los Angeles in the hope of bumping into Clinton on the airport runway — reportedly declared that "if he wants, he'll come, if not, not."

MK Yossi Sarid (Meretz) called the ministers' behavior "unbelievable," adding that "no other government has ever acted with such hutzpa and ungratefulness towards the president of a large power intending to make a good-will visit... Even the 'mad pariah states' don't permit themselves to act with such arrogance."

"This sort of rudeness is par for the course in the cabinet," said

another MK. "But when the mad-house speaks to the outside world it has to be more careful. The Americans must think we are either evil or stupid. I don't know which is worse."

IN the course of the week, following expressions of public disapproval from various quarters, the ministers toned down their words.

By Thursday, Eitan was saying, "Who am I to tell him to come or not to come?" but worried nonetheless that "Clinton... unfamiliar with the Middle Eastern mind, will not be too comfortable in this situation."

Netanyahu, meanwhile, had begun backpedaling on Monday, saying that while the visit "had all been suggested by the president," and while "one or two ministers raised some doubts," Clinton was a welcome guest.

The US, Netanyahu reminded us all, was a "great ally."

"Only ally," noted an Israeli diplomat. "And let's not forget — at \$2.9 billion annually — the greatest aid giver. And now we want another \$1 billion to help implement the accord."

On Tuesday, Netanyahu was telling US Mideast envoy Dennis Ross that Clinton was "always welcome," whether he was able to push the peace process forward or not; on Wednesday he was writing a note to Clinton stressing that both he and his wife, Sara, were "very much looking forward to the visit."

By Thursday he was telling radio listeners that he had never had a moment's doubt about the whole affair. But the damage had already been done.

A presidential visit to Gaza is bound to pull the eyes of the world, if just for a moment — to this crowded strip of land and give the Palestinians the sort of legitimacy the government wants to deny them.

Observers note that the first presidential visit to Israel came only 31 years after it was established, when Jimmy Carter touched down in 1979 to help mediate the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. For Netanyahu, such premature recognition of the Palestinians by such an important country as the US is a minor catastrophe.

"It is unprecedented for an Israeli prime minister to invite — or even to 'sort of invite' — the president of the United States to the Palestinian parliament," said former Israeli ambassador to the US Simcha Diniz.

"We waited for three decades for the honor, and here we give it to them on a platter. And all this on the pretext of nullifying something that has already been nullified."

The government, argued Diniz, was so concerned with proving it was making real demands and not following the path of the previous government that it lost the forest for the trees.

THE prime minister is also worried about something else. Facing perhaps his most risky no-confidence vote to date, Netanyahu needs to be able to play the field to survive. If he sees that salvation can only come from the Right, he will be able to continue amplifying

the claim that the Palestinians have violated "every single section of the Wye accord," and keep the process frozen.

If, on the other hand, he sees he can't make it without the center — he can downplay the violations, and try to finesse some compromise that will allow the process to move forward.

In this respect, Clinton's arrival and the fact that he has his own agenda and his own eyes may not be in Netanyahu's best interest. Clinton will make his own decisions and declarations about just how much the Palestinians are upholding the deal, which could significantly narrow Netanyahu's maneuvering room.

The prime minister, for example, is concerned that the PNC vote will be a farce, but he is probably even more concerned that it won't be a total farce, something which could then lead to a confrontation with the Americans.

If Clinton proclaims the PNC affirmation process to have been acceptable, the government will find it almost impossible to keep using the issue as a card in the deck of Palestinian violations.

You can fool some of the people some of the time, as the saying goes, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

And even though Netanyahu often seems to contradict this old adage, it is becoming clearer that while you can disinvite some of the people some of the time and fool some of the people some of the time, you can't disinvite them and fool them — all at the same time.

## A buck to be made

"Trade is it!" As far as US Commerce Secretary William Daley is concerned, that may as well be a slogan for President Clinton's visit, beginning tomorrow night. That is because Daley will announce on Sunday that Coca-Cola will become the first American company to operate in Gaza's Karni industrial zone, to be inaugurated during the president's visit.

Daley will attend Karni's opening. He is joining Clinton on the visit to give a push to regional economic integration, which the administration believes is a key for an enduring peace.

President Clinton asked me to become more involved in the region, because he knows the importance of economics to peace," Daley said in a speech Wednesday at the Brookings Institution. "In fact, the only point I want to make today is this: as important as politics is to the region, without jobs and economic security, no peace will take hold."

The visit is Daley's second in a month. In November, he chaired a quadrilateral meeting in Jerusalem with his Palestinian, Israeli, and Jordanian counterparts in a bid to strip away trade barriers.

Daley will meet again this time with Maher el-Masri,

Natan Sharansky and Mohamed Hourani to review progress on such ideas as keeping the Allenby Bridge open more hours each day.

In an interview with The Jerusalem Post, Daley said he hoped the follow-up quadrilateral meeting would pave the way for the resumption — after an interruption of nearly three years — of the Taba ministerial committee, a forum established by the late commerce secretary Ron Brown that also includes Egypt's trade minister.

He is also hopeful about the prospects for holding a Middle East/North Africa (MENA) economic summit in 1999 after its cancellation this year.

Daley conceded the difficulties of encouraging American investment in an area where only 7% of trade is intraregional. But he stated that he is prepared to start small and is not bothered by having to devote time to the seemingly micro-economic issues.

"I think it's important that it be successful, important for the Palestinians and the whole process," Daley said of Karni's opening. "There's no question, and the Palestinians understand, that there are lots of challenges to attract business. The idea that Microsoft is going to come over there as one of the first tenants is unrealistic."

New Balance, an American sneaker company, may join Coke and set up shop at Karni, Daley said.

Daley's schedule includes an address to Israeli industrialists in Tel Aviv on Sunday, and the opening on Monday of an American-Palestinian software training institute with branches in Gaza and Nablus. Daley will also meet with Bethlehem businessmen on Monday to discuss the Bethlehem 2000 tourism effort. An American-Palestinian joint venture might be signed.

Business leaders are not joining Daley on the Clinton delegation, but he would like to assemble a group to come in May.

An improved business-friendly environment, as well as the Asian economic crisis, could draw more American investment to the region, Daley said.

He cautioned, though, that the Palestinian Authority must establish economic regulations, respect intellectual property rights and assure investors that their money is safe.

"You've got a market that's been, except for Israel, pretty well ignored by US companies," Daley said. "My sense is there's a desire [by American business] to see whether there are smart investments to be made and, therefore, a buck to be made."

— Hillel Kuttler

## Arrival of the peacemaker

President Bill Clinton's trips to Israel seem to come during great highs or lows. First, he celebrated the Jordanian-Israeli peace treaty. Visits two and three followed Yitzhak Rabin's assassination and the spate of bus bombings.

And Air Force One's touchdown at Ben-Gurion International Airport on Saturday night ushers in a 72-hour storm that began brewing earlier this week.

This time the crisis centers around Israel's suspension of the second redeployment over charges that the Palestinian Authority is not honoring its Wye accord commitments, and Palestinian riots to protest Jerusalem's failure to release political prisoners.

Clinton's visit also comes just six days after Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his cabinet signaled the leader of the free world, quite un diplomatically, that perhaps he ought to remain in Washington.

Clinton will also encounter Netanyahu's resentment over his plan to fly to Gaza International Airport and the Israeli leader's concerns about the stability of his cabinet.

Clinton will now have visited Israel twice as many times as all his predecessors combined. But by the end of his three days in the region, he may prefer more impeachment hearings to returning anytime soon. In fact, Clinton could face impeachment even as

When President Clinton touches down here Saturday night, he will need all his charm to clear the murky pool of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations. Hillel Kuttler reports from Washington

early as Thursday, his second day back in Washington.

THE administration played it cool this week, indicating that the cabinet's kind suggestion notwithstanding, Clinton fully intended to proceed with the trip.

American officials don't place much stock in the seemingly polluted atmosphere surrounding Clinton's visit, maintaining that the Israeli-Palestinian crisis is not that apocalyptic; the cabinet was just venting; the PNC and airport matters will be resolved; and the scrappy Netanyahu will survive a vote of no-confidence. Even if he doesn't, he will probably win an early election anyway.

A senior American official described as "hysterical" and "out of proportion" the Israeli government's objection to Clinton's flying to Gaza, and its airplane-versus-helicopter negotiations with Washington.

"People need to take a deep breath and calm down," he said.

"They don't want him to arrive at the airport; they want him to arrive in the dead of night in a nondescript car. It's not going to happen."

US officials also rejected as naive the assumption that the US expected Clinton's visit to cap the first phase of Wye's implementation, with no presidential heavy-lifting contemplated. The realities of Israeli-Palestinian relations dictate that Clinton is bound to be caught in the middle, and that when he is, he has a constructive role to play.

Clinton's scheduled trilateral meeting with Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat squares with that approach and demonstrates that the President will utilize every opportunity to bring the parties closer together, they said.

"That's a kind of hindsight question," said Judith Kipper of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, of the notion that Clinton is walking

into the eye of the storm when he travels to Israel and Gaza. The latest disputes in the peace process are simply "par for the course," she said.

"This is not a big crisis. It's a little crisis. [Netanyahu] didn't say he won't implement it, only that he'll delay it. It's just political manipulation. This is just... kicking and scratching every step of the way. Tantrums are the name of the game there."

Palestinian and Israeli representatives in Washington are urging the White House to have Clinton weigh in on the dispute, while in Gaza and Jerusalem — on behalf of their own sides, naturally.

Israel's ambassador to Washington, Zalman Shoval, said that in conversations with US officials last week he conveyed "what we want from the Palestinians" in fulfilling their Wye obligations — and how Clinton can help bring that about, since "I know the President is not coming on a tourist visa."

For his part, the PLO's representative here, Hassan Abdel-Rahman, said in a speech Tuesday that the Palestinian Authority has fulfilled its obligations under the Wye accord, and that Clinton has a "moral as well as legal responsibility" as a signatory to "do what [he] can to secure that the other side does its share."

See PEACEMAKER, Page 15

سكنا من الاربعين





No stranger to arms: A Haredi youth undergoes weapons training in 1948.

(Fred Cassenik)

## Black under khaki

This week's historic High Court ruling dealt with the masses of Haredim who don't serve in the army. Herb Keiron spoke to a few of those who do

You do find them in the army, the Haredim — not that many, not that often, not at all in proportion to their numbers in the population. But some of them are there.

You meet them most often in the reserves, huddled around a propane burner during night patrol — along with a kibbutznik, a Tel Aviv lawyer, and a Druse tracker — waiting for the Turkish coffee to boil. You see them with their large black velvet *kipot* under a dusty green hat, earlocks wrapped around their ears, *tzitzit* entangled in the hooks on the strap-vest that holds the canteens and the extra bullet magazines. You watch them read on the sly during guard duty — not the newspapers or paperbacks that the others read, but rather miniature editions of the Mishna or the Book of Psalms.

Don't get the wrong impression: the numbers are not great. The IDF does not provide this type of breakdown; it does not have a questionnaire at the induction offices where one indicates the degree of one's religious observance.

But Manof, a Jerusalem-based Haredi think tank and policy center, says that according to a Defense Ministry study prepared by deputy director-general Haim Yisraeli, nearly half the Haredim do some sort of army service.

The service the Haredim do is often shorter than, and much different from that of "regular" sol-

diers. You don't find the Haredim in the elite commando units, and only very rarely in a unit like the paratroopers.

They are often found in the IDF's chaplaincy, and in the Education Corps. They are also found in the Engineering Corps, in the Medical Corps, among the foot soldiers. These Haredim, however, often do shortened service, like new immigrants, and then are called on to serve each year in the reserves.

THE two largest categories of Haredim in uniform, agreed Danny Nassi, the director of Manof, are Habadniks, and those who became religious after their regular service and either don't want to — or can't — get exemptions from further service.

"Shlomo," a 40-year-old medic who does not want his real name to be used, falls into the latter category. He was interviewed by cellular phone while on reserve duty at the Ayotz Junction just north of Ramallah, over the last two weeks the epicenter of much of the Palestinian rioting.

"Shots were fired in our direction last night," he said Thursday morning.

Shlomo, the father of nine, lives in Mea She'arim, and although he is affiliated with one of the large Haredi courts there, does not want the name of the Haredi sect to appear in the paper. He became Haredi after having served his

three-year IDF stint on missile boats.

"Getting out of reserve duty is not that big a thing," he said, explaining why he continues to serve. "But I figure it I am not learning all day — and I don't learn all day — there is no reason not to go in."

Having said that, Shlomo, who works with groups promoting Haredi-secular dialogue, said he is adamantly opposed to taking yeshiva students away from their study, desks because of the enormous value he places on Torah study and his religious belief that this is as important in safeguarding the Jewish people, in a metaphysical sense, as is the physical guarding of the borders.

Shlomo said that he takes off his uniform and puts on his Haredi garb before going home to Mea She'arim. "It's not that I am embarrassed," he said, "just that I don't feel the need to emphasize the issue."

Yet when Shlomo reports for reserve duty, he does so in full Haredi attire. "They accept me fine," he said of the other soldiers he serves with. "There are always discussions, but we try not to turn it into a fight. Relations are good."

"But understand something," he added. "It is very hard. I have a nonreligious background, and come into contact with the secular public every day. I have few problems. But I'll give you an example.

"Here I go out on patrols with good guys, really good guys. But you hear talk and jokes that yeshiva students can't listen to, that I can't listen to. It bothers me."

"I try to say something gently, but it doesn't always work, because people come here for a vacation from work, a vacation from their wives and children — and this type of talk is one of the results. From this standpoint, it is very difficult."

IT may be difficult, but it is a difficulty more Haredim will probably be forced to face as a result of Wednesday's High Court ruling on Haredi draft deferments.

This ruling, which bounced the issue back to the Knesset's court, was met with predictable responses by Haredi rabbinical and political leadership, from Meir Porush, who threatened that the Haredim will leave the country, to Rabbi Eliezer Schach, who reportedly said, "This will never come to pass."

A few other voices, albeit faint and generally off the record, were heard.

Nassi, who serves in an educational capacity in the IDF reserves, said the court's decision is "good" because "this is a genuine issue of distress for many of the nonreligious, and now they will be able to hear the other side."

"As the debate in the Knesset progresses, they will learn more about how the Haredim view this, and realize that Torah study is not a matter of looking for comfort or an easy way out, but rather an integral part of our religious philosophy."

Another more prominent Haredi activist, who did not want to be identified because his views on this

matter go against the grain in the Haredi world, said: "Everyone, except maybe [the extremist sect] Satmar, understands that a solution needs to be found. The numbers [of those receiving deferments] also create problems in yeshivot, because not everyone who is in the yeshivot should be in the yeshivot."

Ultimately, this activist predicted, a compromise will be reached on how many deferments for full-time study will be granted. But this will cause tremendous problems and friction in the Haredi community, he pointed out, because of the difficulty of choosing who should stay in the yeshiva and who should go to boot camp.

"When you boil it all down to fixed numbers," the activist said, "someone will have to say, 'You go in, and you stay and learn.' How do you do that? What criteria do you use? How do you measure talent in the yeshiva? In fact, what is talent in the yeshiva?"

"When you talk about learning Torah, the goal is not to take the best and turn them into professors at the end. If someone sits and studies Torah — but is not a genius, his head is not that great — is his learning of less value, less important?"

THE solution, this Haredi functionary said, should be a form of "natural selection."

"Look, you don't want a situation where the heads of yeshivot will fight over numbers, with one saying he wants 200 deferments, and another saying he deserves 300. This is complicated, and even dangerous."

Instead, he said, various frame-

works should be set up so that Haredi youth, when they reach the end of their studies, should be able to choose from several options.

He said he would like to see a situation where the Haredim could, like religious Zionist youth, choose between full military service, *hesder*, the pre-military yeshivot where full service is pushed off for one or two years, or even extended deferments, as are granted to students at Jerusalem's Merkaz Harav yeshiva.

"What is crucial," he said, "is that they not be forced to go in at 18 but be able to choose their framework when they finish yeshiva studies."

HABAD is one camp in the Haredi world that does not encourage its charges to stay and study in yeshivot for ever. Rather, the late rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson, encouraged his followers to "go out into the world." What this means in Israel is that at 22 or 23 many of them leave the yeshivot and go into the army.

Yekutieli Green, a 55-year-old rabbi from Kfar Habad, was a case in point. He went into the IDF just after the Six Day War, after leaving *kollel* at the age of 24.

At that time he was married, with children, and did four months of shortened service, followed by some 20 years of reserve duty, including the War of Attrition and the Yom Kippur War.

After six years in the Jerusalem Brigade, he was co-opted to the chaplaincy during the Yom Kippur War, and ended his army career with the rank of lieutenant.

"I saw service as an ideal," Green

said. "I wouldn't say that from a religious point of view it was easy. There were problems with modesty issues and with food. But this is not a reason not to serve."

Green said that the biggest problem he had as a Haredi in the army was that the IDF did not live up to its own regulations regarding *kashrut* in small outposts. Even if these problems are solved, which can be done easily enough, Green does not think the Haredi world should say: "Okay, there is food, now you can go in."

He said he is not in favor of forcing anyone to stop studying. But once they do stop studying, he said, "the first thing you must do is go to the army."

Green said that his time spent in the reserves was "very positive. The other soldiers see you as one of the *hevre*, and it breaks all the myths and stereotypes. Their image of Haredim comes usually only from the media. I go in, and they see that Haredim don't have horns."

As to whether secular-Haredi hostility would end if Haredim were mobilized into the IDF, Green was skeptical.

"If it is not this issue, it will be something else. There will always be something to fight about."

"Look, I don't have a stylish haircut. I have earlocks, a beard, *tzitzit* outside my pants. But the minute I used to show up for reserves, people would yell at me. 'You religious don't serve in the army.'"

"I went up to serve with them, and they attacked me for the Haredim that don't serve. When I pointed this out, they said, 'You are not Haredi, you are a Habadnik.'"

A young Haredi reaches for his papers as he prepares to enter the Jerusalem recruiting office this week.

(AP)



## PEACEMAKER

Continued from Page 14

CLINTON is visiting now for the same reason he spent a staggering 80-plus hours at Wye hammering out the agreement — he cares passionately about peace in the Middle East, he is drawn to Israel by his Christian beliefs, and he believes that the Palestinians truly want peace and that he can help deliver it.

Shoval said that Clinton's participation in the PNC forum serves Jerusalem's interest because it will force the Palestinians to deliver on pledges to finally annul the PLO covenant or risk Clinton's witnessing what he and others will take to be a farce.

"If the Palestinians don't do what they're supposed to do, the world will know, first and foremost the Americans," said Shoval. "There's no superior witness than the President of the US, who will be

present there."

Clinton's decision at Wye to attend the PNC meeting and oversee the implementation of the accord he shepherded "really reflects his deep interest in Israel and the peace process, and his willingness to kind of roll up his sleeves and get into the details, just like at Wye," the US official said.

"Clearly, this president is deeply engaged, and I think the history of peacemaking has shown that a presidential commitment at critical times, and direct involvement, is sometimes necessary to move things forward. The history of the past few years has shown that [special Middle East coordinator] Dennis Ross and the Secretary [of State] can only carry it so far, and sometimes the prestige of the president is necessary to carry it forward. As the two sides get into final-status negotiations, presidential involvement is going to be very important to bring it to a conclusion."

The official said he views the trip in the "long-range perspective" of presidents' increasing engagement in the Middle East since the Yom Kippur War.

While Clinton has a "deep and personal" allegiance to Israel, he recognizes that the Palestinians badly need a peace agreement — one that "gives them dignity and a stake in the future," the official said.

"I think he sees a balanced deal with the Palestinians as really critical in moving this forward. And that, of course, leads to a lot of anxiety in Israel about what this means for the future."

That said, the official added, the visit "forces Israelis to focus on, and think about, May 1999, and on what's going to happen with the West Bank and Gaza." "He's not going to do things that would hurt Israeli security... but will try and move this forward. His visit crystallizes the difficulties the Israelis are going to have to face. But the

Palestinians are also going to have to face choices."

Not lost on the US or the parties is the symbolism of Clinton's making his first visit to Palestinian-run territory, just as the administration is cautioning the PA against announcing plans to declare statehood.

Such symbolism contributes to the widening American-Palestinian relationship. Last week saw the first meeting of a bilateral economic commission and preliminary discussions between the administration and Congress about rescinding laws that treat the PLO and Arafat as terrorists.

Clinton's visit to Gaza and, on Tuesday, to Bethlehem, is "historic" and "reflects the level of the relationship and the evolution of the relationship," Abdel Rahman said.

A KEY factor in Clinton's assistance to the sides during this visit

and beyond is the credibility he engendered during the nine-day Wye marathon, Kipper said.

Clinton "is the president of the United States. He can stay above the fray," she said.

"He'll have to detach from [the disputes] and go about being the

peacemaker. I don't think it's a problem. He's very good at avoidance. He's good on his feet. He himself is so attached to all of this. He'll be deeply touched by being there. One shouldn't underestimate that."

"He knows [the issues] so inti-

mately. He spent so many days and nights with these folks. It's like going to a residential conference versus a one-day conference. You build relationships that couldn't be built any other way — through fatigue, anger, hunger, disappointment, all of it."

## Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Center for German Studies

### German Myths: Film in Context

International Cinema Workshop, December 16-17, 1998

Conference Hall B Zlotowski Students Hall

In Cooperation with the Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation

Wednesday, December 16, 1998

17:00 Greetings:  
Nachum Finger, Rector Ben-Gurion University  
Johannes Gerster, Konrad-Adenauer-Foundation  
Frank Stern, Director Center for German Studies

17:20-19:30  
Chair: Frank Stern, Beer-Sheva  
Confronting German Myths  
Jossi Mali, Tel-Aviv  
Jews and German Mythology  
Thomas Koebner, Mainz  
Wagner, Lang, and the Nibelungen

20:30  
Film Screening  
Nibelungen Part 1: Siegfrieds Tod  
(Dir. Fritz Lang, 1922)

Thursday, December 17, 1998

9:30-11:00  
Chair: Mark Gelber, Beer-Sheva  
Jews and Germans as the Cultural Other  
Anthony D. Skinner, Chicago  
The Search for the Jewish Nibelungenlied  
Michael Y. Bodemann, Toronto and Berlin  
The Construction of the Other

11:30-13:00  
Chair: Chaim Finkelstein, Beer-Sheva  
German Images of Israel - Israeli images of Germany  
Gildad Margalit, Haifa

Israel as "Paradies und Feuerofen"  
Ilana Avidar, Tel-Aviv  
Osajuden in the Middle East: The Inferiority Complex and ideological Vortex of Israeli Film-makers

14:30-17:00  
Chair: Frank Stern, Beer-Sheva  
Confronting Taboos: Richard Wagner in Germany and Israel  
Nachum Schoffman, Beer-Sheva  
Two of Wagner's Characters Tunes Their Instruments  
Na'ama Sheffi, Tel-Aviv  
Wagner, the Holocaust, and the Israelis  
Gottfried Wagner, Cerro Maggiore  
Siegfried - The Demise of a Myth

17:30-18:30  
Roundtable Discussion  
Moderator: Steven Aschheim, Jerusalem  
Mark Gelber, Thomas Koebner, Jossi Mali, Hans-Jürgen Negel, Nachum Schoffman, Na'ama Sheffi, Gottfried Wagner

19:00  
Film Screening - Israeli Premiere  
Lubitsch Junior (Dir. Christian Bau, 1990)  
Introduction by the Director

Center for German Studies  
Tel: +972-7-6461148  
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Elias Khouri at the entrance to Ikrit cemetery: The Arab villagers don't want to take the land farmed by the kibbutz, he says.



Boulous Khouri, Elias's cousin, stands near the Ikrit church: He doesn't understand why Arabs and Jews cannot 'live side by side.'

## The homesickness that won't ebb

A proposal to let the displaced Arab inhabitants of Ikrit and Birim return to their homes is stirring up their hopes and their Jewish neighbors' fears, Larry Derfner reports

Once a week, usually Monday or Tuesday, Boulous Khouri, a retired butcher, takes two buses from his home in Haifa, gets off in the hills of Western Galilee, and hikes up to his old church.

"I just stay here, walk around, sweep up some," he said this week.

Pointing a little way down from the church to a spot where a couple of small fruit trees stood among concrete blocks, Khouri, 65, said, "Over there was my family's house."

The church and cemetery, located north of Ma'alot and about 5 km. from the Lebanese border, are all that's left of what was once the Arab village of Ikrit. In its place are moshavim. The land Khouri comes to visit is part of Moshav Shomera.

In his living room in nearby Kafr Yasif, Elias Ya'akub, 84, recalled when Israeli soldiers entered Ikrit in November 1948, during the War of Independence. "We showed the soldiers where the Arab forces had planted mines on the road to the village. My father slaughtered a cow for them and gave them the meat," he said.

Ikrit and another Christian Arab village to the east, Birim, didn't fight the Jews in the war. When Israeli soldiers entered the two towns that November, they told the villagers that for their own safety, they should leave for two weeks until the fighting had died down, and then they would be allowed to return.

They're still waiting. According to Boulous's cousin, Elias Khouri, who was eight when he was forced to leave Ikrit, there were some 450 people in his village and about twice that number in Birim.

TODAY there are a total of about 3,000 survivors and their descendants still living in Israel — "all over Galilee, the Triangle, in

Jerusalem, as far south as Beersheba," Khouri said.

The ex-residents have asked the High Court of Justice to order the government to recognize their ownership of land in what used to be Ikrit and Birim.

Replying to the petition, Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi proposed

**'I beg to be allowed to return to my village,' said Elias Ya'akub, whose father slaughtered a cow for the conquering Israeli soldiers in 1948**

last week that the people be given 600 dunams in each of the two former villages so they could build homes there.

Yet Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is said to oppose the plan, and it is not expected to win government approval. Officials in the Prime Minister's Office were repeatedly unavailable for comment.

Attorney Avigdor Feldman, who represents the former residents, said, "This government

will never give them the land back. The only way they can get it is through the High Court."

Ikrit and Birim. Every few years the names crop up anew. They're recalled as nagging Israeli Arab complaints, and then they fade away again.

Hardly anyone disputes the injustice done to the ex-residents. The High Court ruled as early as 1951 that they should be allowed to return home. Menachem Begin voiced sympathy for their cause.

Later, the Rabin-Peres government was prepared to offer them the arrangement that Hanegbi essentially resubmitted, yet the former residents remain displaced persons within Israel.

YA'AKUB lives in a roomy house. His three grown children live with their families in attached houses. A retired cook with the Israel Police, Ya'akub has lived in Kafr Yasif for 24 years. But, he said, "I don't feel like I belong here."

A pre-1948 photograph of the hillside village of Ikrit hangs on his wall.

"When I visit Ikrit, I feel like I've been born again," he said.

Natives of Ikrit pray in the old church on Christian holidays, and often go there for weekend picnics. In summers they organize a camp there for some of their grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Whenever one of the families has a wedding, they invite all the home folks, and many hundreds always attend, said Elias Khouri, a high-school counselor who lives in the Arab village of Mafr.

"And wherever they may live, they all come back to Ikrit to be buried," he added, noting that the cemetery was returned for the former residents' use in the early 1970s.

Walking through the graveyard, Khouri came to his family plot. "I'll be buried here someday,"

**'If those people are allowed to come back, it's going to fire up the Arabs all over Galilee. We'll have an Intifada here'**

— Yehuda Deri  
Moshav Shomera

he said with a measure of satisfaction.

Said Ya'akub: "You go up to one of our great-grandchildren, he could be four or five years old, he could live in Haifa, and ask him where he's from. He'll say, 'I'm from Ikrit.'"

The land of Ikrit and Birim was divided up among Kibbutz Sasa, Kibbutz Baran and about a half-dozen moshavim.

Although the former residents won the right to return in 1951 from the High Court, which ruled in their favor because Israeli military authorities hadn't officially ordered them out of the villages, the authorities got around this by ordering them out retroactively.

IAF bombers destroyed the homes of Ikrit on Christmas Eve, 1951, and those of Birim nearly two years later, leaving only the churches standing.

Subsequent Israeli governments argued against letting the ex-residents go back because it could set a dangerous precedent: Masses of other resettled Israeli Arabs might try to go back to the towns they fled during the war.

THERE are some 250,000 Israeli Arabs, hailing from some 60 destroyed villages, who fall into this category, said attorney

Wakim Wakim, head of the Israeli Arab Defense Committee for the Rights of the Dispossessed in Israel.

Yet Wakim said the ex-villagers of Ikrit and Birim had a unique case because the IDF had promised them in 1948 that they could return shortly. No such promise was made to refugees from the other villages.

Therefore no precedent is involved, he said.

Netanyahu's opposition to Hanegbi's plan is reportedly based on the fear of setting such a precedent.

"An excuse, a bluff," countered Boulous Khouri.

Israeli policy toward Ikrit and Birim changed under Rabin and Peres.

"I think the Peres government was on its way to reaching an agreement with the residents. It wouldn't have been smooth, but I think they would have done it. But then the elections came, there was a new government, and everything 'was off,'" said Feldman.

Driving up toward the church, Elias Khouri pointed out the fruit tree orchards of Moshav Shomera.

"We don't want this part, we don't want to take the land they farm," he said.

Boulous added that the ex-villagers have no intention of moving any Jewish resident out of his home.

"None of their homes are on our land," he pointed out.

But the moshavim have plenty of forest land that they could give back to the former residents, they said.

"Why can't we live side by side?" asked Khouri.

Although he credited Hanegbi for making the offer, Boulous said that even if the government gave its approval, the deal would have to be negotiated.

Ikrit, he claimed, had measured 15,650 dunams according to the Ottoman-era land registry. While the exiles aren't demanding anywhere near all of it, they want more than 600 dunams, he said.

Hanegbi's offer emphasizes and reemphasizes that this is a one-time, take-it-or-leave-it offer, applying to Ikrit and Birim and not a precedent for any other Israeli Arabs.

THE arrangement also promises to aid the kibbutzim and moshavim that would be forced to give up parts of their land.

Yet Yehuda Deri, secretary of Shomera, said the moshavniks and kibbutzniks who would be affected by the plan are totally opposed to it, for a number of reasons.



Elias Ya'akub has lived in a roomy house in Kafr Yasif for 24 years, but "I don't feel like I belong here."

"The moshavim in the area plan to double their population, they want to build more housing. This is a narrow stretch of land. Where are we going to fit another 2,000 or 3,000 people?" Deri asked.

"If the Arabs get 600 dunams now, they'll have their foot in the door and they'll keep asking for more and more."

Deri agrees fully with the domino theory regarding Ikrit and Birim.

"If those people are allowed to come back, it's going to fire up the Arabs all over Galilee. They're going to start saying, 'Why them and not us?' and then we might see an Intifada here."

"Look, just about all of Galilee used to belong to the Arabs," Deri continued. "Most of the kibbutzim and moshavim up here are sitting on what used to be Arab villages."

He noted that Shomera's residential area, which houses the moshav's 600 members, is on land that used to be part of Tarbikha, another Arab village that was destroyed and rebuilt after its original residents fled in 1948.

Deri came to Shomera from Morocco in 1953 at the age of 12. His family was among the 60 Moroccan families who founded

the moshav. "We lived in Arab houses that had been abandoned; later we destroyed them and built new ones," he said.

Asked if it was fair to deny the natives of Ikrit and Birim the right of return, he replied, "Maybe it's unfair, maybe it's unfair to all the Arabs, but war is war. Was it fair to settle Jewish immigrants next to the border if the government was just going to give the land back later?"

"If they were going to let the Arabs return to Ikrit and Birim, they should have done it early in the 1950s, when it was still fresh. But today things are different."

"The [Israeli] Arabs aren't like the Arabs of 1948. Now they're more aware, they're more militant, and they're all going to come demanding their rights," said Deri.

Ya'akub, whose father slaughtered a cow for the conquering Israeli soldiers, doesn't state his case as a demand.

"I beg to be allowed to return to my village," he said.

Asked if he thought he would live to see that day, he replied, "Not at my age. It's going to take a while yet. But I think my children and their children deserve the chance."

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Monday, December 14, 1998

HEBREW UNIVERSITY, JERUSALEM  
Beit Maierdorf

First Session: 09:00 - 10:30 *Intelligence in World War II*  
Second Session: 11:00 - 12:30 *Intelligence in Palestine, and during the Cold War*  
Third Session: 13:30 - 15:00 *Intelligence and the Jewish Question*  
Fourth Session: 15:30 - 17:00 *New Archival Sources*

Tuesday, December 15, 1998

TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY  
Bnei Zion Auditorium - Beit Hatfusot

Fifth Session: 09:15 - 10:45 *Zionist and Jewish Responses to the Holocaust*  
Sixth Session: 11:15 - 13:00 *Nuremberg*  
Seventh Session: 14:30 - 16:00 *The Holocaust: New Archival Revelations*  
Eighth Session: 16:30 - 18:00 *The Middle East and Decolonization, 1944-1948*

Wednesday, December 16, 1998

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY  
Mintz Auditorium

Ninth Session: 09:30 - 11:00 *The Cold War and the Middle East*  
Tenth Session: 11:30 - 13:00 *Impact of the Holocaust on the Jewish Question*  
Eleventh Session: 14:00 - 15:30 *The First Arab-Israeli War*  
Twelfth Session: 16:00 - 17:30 *Looted Jewish Assets - the "Last Chapter?"*  
17:30 - 19:00 *Concluding Discussion*

The public is invited • lectures will be given in English  
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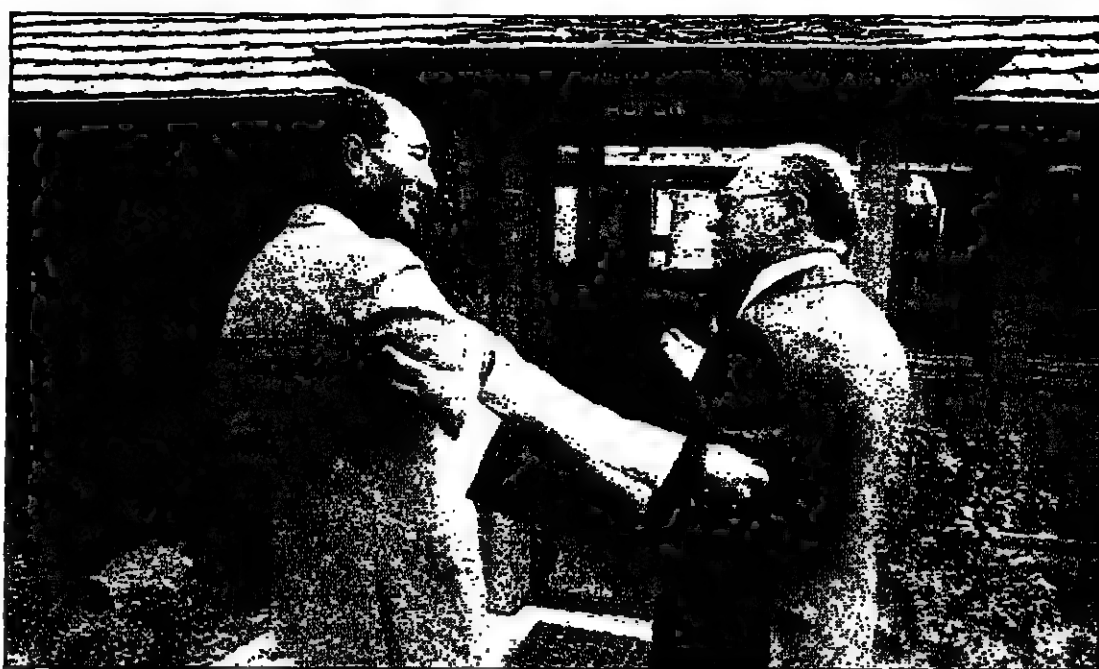
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# Human chemistry's the key

The personal factor is often the decisive one in wrapping up international agreements, Tom Tugend learned from Camp David veterans



An intimate moment at Camp David between Sadat, the 'big picture' man who detested detail, and the nuance-obsessed Begin.

Listen to more than 30 veteran Israeli, Arab and American diplomats discuss their craft for two days, and it is surprising – and somehow reassuring – to learn that even at the highest levels, success or failure ultimately hangs on plain old human relationships.

In this case, the diplomats were tied by the historical bond of having served their respective countries in forging the Camp David Accords. That pact, hammered out by presidents Anwar Sadat and Jimmy Carter and prime minister Menachem Begin, formed the framework for the still-unbroken peace between Egypt and Israel.

The diplomats came together this week with a group of scholars at Ben-Gurion University to measure the distance traveled since that historic time and, perhaps, extract some lessons for their present-day successors.

The case for human relationships as the ultimate force in diplomacy was put forth in a scholarly address by Dr. Harold H. Saunders, who in 1978 was US assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

In diplomacy, especially peace-making, he said, "We must widen the angle of our lens from the traditional focus on government and institutions to include human beings outside government."

"Many of today's deep-rooted conflicts are beyond the reach of government," Saunders added. "They are not just about concrete issues, they are about human relationships... These conflicts are not ready for formal mediation, because people do not negotiate about identity, fear, historic grievances or acceptance."

No two societies illustrate better

than Israelis and Palestinians the power of both positive and negative relationships between people to either make or break peace, said Saunders.

Another basic factor in the success of momentous summit meetings is the psychological makeup of the top leaders and the chemistry

between them.

Before Camp David, Carter told the CIA that he wanted to be "steeped in the personalities of Begin and Sadat," and asked for exhaustive personality profiles of the two leaders.

The task fell to psychiatrist Jerrold M. Post, who found that Sadat and Begin's personalities could hardly

have been more different.

Sadat was a "big picture" man who detested details and felt he was destined to play a transcendental role in history.

By contrast, Begin's mind focused on exacting details and nuances of language. In addition, he was marked by the searing impact of the Holocaust and instinctively

recoiled from what he perceived as pressure exerted by a superior force. But the two men's overwhelming determination to come to agreement – along with the pressure exerted by Carter – obviously helped them overcome these differences and sign an accord.

How the two leaders were perceived, especially by their domestic enemies, bears considerable resemblance to the current situation in the Middle East, Post said in an interview.

"In coming to Jerusalem, Sadat was seen by the radical Arab world as a traitor," he said. "Begin was expected to cement the Greater Israel, and when instead he compromised, many of his followers felt that he had betrayed them."

"Now, 20 years later, Arab rejectionists rail at Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat as a traitor," said Post. "On the other side, many who voted for Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to reverse the Oslo agreement now feel they have been betrayed."

DESPITE the collegial civility of the conference, current regional animosities occasionally broke through.

Israeli tempers frayed when Arafat adviser Bassam Abu-Sharif recited a list of grievances against the Netanyahu government. And when, later on, Abu-Sharif proclaimed that Palestinians and Israelis should walk hand-in-hand for peace, former Begin aide Yehiel Kadishai exclaimed, "Say it in Arabic, to your people, not here in English."

There was only one brief sparring incident over historical fact, relating to whether the Soviet Union had airlifted weapons to Egypt during the Yom Kippur War.

But for the conference participants, no new historical findings emerged, former US secretary of state Cyrus Vance and former Egyptian prime minister Dr. Mustafa Khalil agreed.

The purpose and success of the conference lay elsewhere, said its organizer, Dr. Dror Ze'evi, head of the Chaim Herzog Center at BGU, which hosted the parley.

"While we got some good historical material for later analysis, the main achievement of the conference was in the fact that it happened," Ze'evi said.

"It's a success when, in a time of tension, senior Jordanian, Palestinian and Egyptian diplomats and scholars sit down together [with Israelis] to talk seriously and quietly about important issues."

## 'Sounding board' for Wye failures

As if to warn up for the arrival of US President Clinton tomorrow night, both Yasser Arafat and Benjamin Netanyahu used an eminent international delegation to practice their arguments on why Wye wasn't working.

Meeting Wednesday morning with Arafat in Hebron and in the afternoon with the prime minister in Jerusalem were former senior statesmen who had represented Egypt, Israel and the US during the formulation of the Camp David Accords. The group had spent the previous two days at a Ben-Gurion University conference marking the 20th anniversary of Camp David.

It was Arafat's turn first. Asking his guests forgiveness for speaking frankly, he charged

the Israeli government with "canceling" the Wye agreement by building new settlements, not releasing the right kind of Palestinian prisoners, and other alleged violations.

He also went to considerable lengths to rebut Israeli charges that Palestinian school textbooks preach hatred of Jews and Zionism, but reiterated his goal to achieve the "peace of the brave."

"I hope we meet again in better circumstances," said Arafat, in bidding farewell to his guests.

Netanyahu, after a tough day in the Knesset and facing the possible collapse of both his government and the Wye agreement, spent close to 90 minutes with the delegation and put on a bravura performance.

Seeming completely relaxed, he answered questions before they were asked, threw out political one-liners and delivered his own sheet of charges.

He noted that Arafat, unlike himself, was "unwilling to face the music" by telling his people frankly what the Wye agreement demanded of the Palestinian side.

On the release of the Palestinian prisoners, Netanyahu said that the PA "has orchestrated a campaign of violent demonstrations to back up trumped-up charges, a feat that takes a high degree of cynicism."

As for the likely result of the Clinton visit, Netanyahu observed that "[the Palestinians] think they have a blank check from the United States, but I think they are wrong." – T.T.

## Dry Bones



GRAPEVINE By GREER FAY CASHMAN

Foreign Ministry veteran Yehuda Avner, a former ambassador to the Court of Saint James, frequently worked as a ministry translator in his pre-ambassadorial days. Thus when he chaired the annual Re'ut Women's Social Service dinner at Gan Oranim last week, he had no trouble translating his Hebrew remarks into English for the benefit of the British, Irish and Canadian ambassadors – and any of the other 400 guests whose Hebrew was not up to par.

But unlike other dignitaries who are called on to speak in more than one language, Avner did not deliver an address in Hebrew followed by one in English. In true professional style, he translated sentence by sentence as he went along.

Two highlights of the dinner were the presentation of an honor award to Dr. Nahman Wilensky, medical director of the Re'ut Medical Center, and a recital by the 40-member Yuval cantors choir and soloist Israel Land, under the baton of Dr. Mordechai Sobol.



Yiddish culture chief Avraham Melamed

Experimental Medicine and Cancer Research at the Hebrew University, received the Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany from German Ambassador Theodor Wallau this week. The event symbolized the closing of a circle. One of the emotional high moments at the ceremony, held in the presence of Schlesinger's family, friends and colleagues at Wallau's Herzliya Pithul residence, was the reading of a congratulatory fax from the association of German pediatricians.

Why were pediatricians congratulating a cancer specialist? The answer lies in Schlesinger's hometown, the German city of Worms, also the birthplace of Rashi.

In Worms, Schlesinger's father had been a practicing pediatrician. Serving with the German Armed Forces in World War I, he was awarded the Cross of the Order of Bravery. With the rise of Nazism in 1933 and the dismissal of Jewish doctors in Germany, Schlesinger senior moved his family to Palestine, where his son also studied medicine and embarked on a distinguished career as a teacher and researcher at the Hebrew University. Prof. Schlesinger has also been instrumental in promoting scientific ties between Israel and the land of his birth – which earned him the current honor.

IT was *cead mile failte* ("a hundred thousand welcomes" in Gaelic) and *shalom* to newly arrived First Secretary at the Irish Embassy Paul Gunning and his wife, Anne-Marie, at a reception hosted by Irish Ambassador Brendan Scannell and his wife, Margaret, at their Herzliya Pithul residence. Gunning is no stranger to Israel, having visited some years ago during his stint at the Irish Embassy in Athens, then the base for Ireland's non-resident ambassador to Israel. Seen adding to the flavor of the evening were The Jerusalem Post's own Native Sons of Erin Thomas O'Dwyer and Malcolm Gafson, the latter wearing his other hat of vice-chairman of the Israel-Ireland Friendship League.

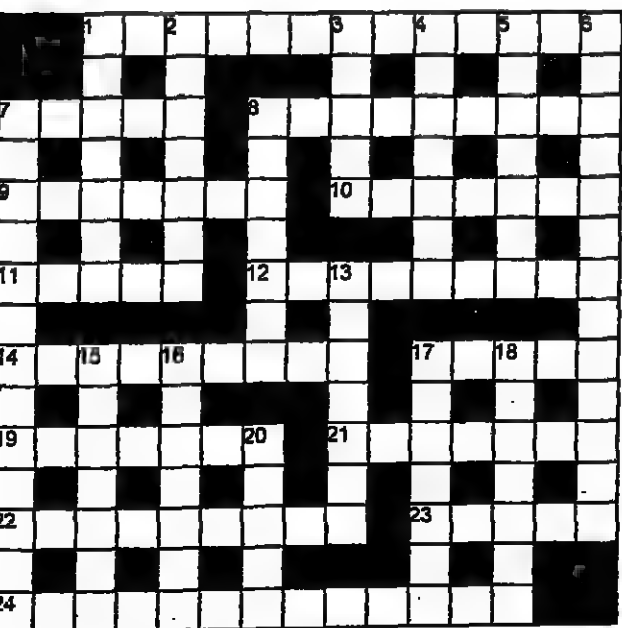
A NEW face on the IBA News is that of Efrat Battat, 27, raised partly in Israel and partly in the US. A second-generation broadcaster, who also works on Israel Radio's Arabic network, she is the daughter of the well-known Arabic-language broadcaster Violet Battat, who died just over a month ago.

Violet Battat attracted a large following in Arab countries, so much so that Jordan Radio broadcast the news of her demise. Efrat, who had been all set to make her English-language debut a few weeks earlier, delayed her appearance in deference to the 30-day mourning period for her mother.

WHEN Michael Schlesinger, Lady Davis Professor of

### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

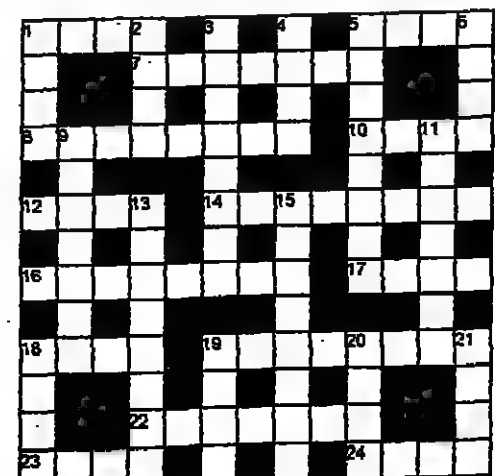
- ACROSS**
- Pompous, pi mstrons left in disarray (4-9)
  - Old lecher carries good cosmetic powder (5)
  - Rhymester uses extract from Edgar Allan's work (9)
  - Failed to mention Labov's defeat (4,3)
  - Exodus, one man regarded as imperative (7)
  - Going to and fro is impossible (3,2)
  - Longing for a blue-eyed boy to be in the money (9)
  - Lace worker in cold accommodation (9)
  - Beg for a key in prison (5)
  - After French graduates succeeded in America (7)
- DOWN**
- Extinguish the candle and pop off (5,2)
  - After German song admit to need for rest (3,4)
  - A bit of utter tranquility (5)
  - He has few illusions about a catalogue (7)



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ACROSS: 1 Terror, 9 Farmer, 10 Ennoble, 11 Letter, 12 Plead, 13 Atlas, 17 Gamma, 18 Como, 22 Renal, 23 Nascent, 24 Brogue, 25 Hoeder, DOWN: 1 Attempt, 2 Transom, 3 Combs, 4 Fig-leaf, 5 Smite, 6 Proxy, 9 Testament, 14 Parloids, 15 Comedic, 16 Posters, 19 Probe, 20 Snoop, 21 Ascot.

### QUICK CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- First man (4)
  - Globule (4)
  - Mean (7)
  - Dejected (8)
  - Egg-shaped (4)
  - At a distance (4)
  - Refuted (8)
  - Dramatic outline (5)
  - Raised platform (4)
  - Crow (4)
  - Bought back (8)
  - Get rid of (7)
  - Fixed look (4)
  - US college (4)
- DOWN**
- Eager (4)
  - Chief (4)
  - Restorer (8)
  - Hypocritical talk (4)
  - Infatuated (8)
  - Wooded hollow (4)
  - Commissioned serviceman (7)
  - Simian (3-4)
  - Turncoat (8)
  - New York theatreland (8)
  - Brief explosion (4)
  - Corrosion (4)
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## SALES/RENTALS

BAKA, 3, FIRST floor, 2 balconies, No agents. Tel. 02-571-2757, 02-571-7544. [798270]

## SALES

OLD KATAMON, 3, TERRACE, first floor, small office, 73 m., great location. E-mail: shabs@post.co.il  
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SPECIAL: REHAVIA, 6, LARGE, private garden, parking, quiet, T.A.C. Tel. 02-563-1764. [20265]

GERMAN COLONY, UNIQUE PENTHOUSE, 4, luxurious, large terraces, parking (no commission). DI VEROLI-SHANI. Tel. 02-561-2424. [19344]

GERMAN COLONY, UNIQUE, 2, garden, basement, parking, 13 VEROLI-SHANI. Tel. 02-561-2424. [19344]

RASCO (HATKUFAT): 4, view, south, closets, AC, parking, storeroom, immediate, \$235,000, T.A.C. Tel. 02-563-1764. [68]

HABITAT EXCLUSIVE REAL Estate, Rehavia, 2, renovated, special Shara's Chessed / Rehavia, 3, low floor, south facing, Succah, immediate Rehavia, 4, renovated garden, quiet, special price! Beit Yegor, 6, luxurious, new, large patio, excellent quality! Old Katamon, cottage, 7, prestigious, luxurious, great location! Tel. 02-561-1222 (Dafna). [20500]  
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GERMAN COLONY, NEW penthouse, 110sq.m., and sunny terrace, 100sq.m., elevator, parking, ALEX LOSKY REAL ESTATE. Tel. 02-623-5595. [68]

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## DWELLINGS

### Jerusalem Area

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TALBIEH 4 ROOMS, (180SQ.M.) 3rd floor, elevator, view, south-east, A/C, balconies, quiet, immediate, ALEX LOSKY REAL ESTATE Tel. 02-623-5595. [68]

KIRYAT WOLFSON - LUXURIOUS villa, 200 sq.m., plus terrace, 2 parking spaces, 2 bedrooms, \$750,000. Tel. 052-676-621. [202373]

CENTRAL 2, NEW + Succa balcony, \$19,000, 3 + view, \$200,000, keys at ZIMMUK, Tel. 02-563-8221. [20177]

ARMONA, NEW LUXURIOUS, 5 rooms, private entrance, terrace, covered parking, AMBASSADOR, Tel. 02-561-8101. [20225]

HABITAT REAL ESTATE, Wolfson Towers, 2 bedrooms, high floor, parking, view, terrace, \$110,000. Tel. 02-561-1222 (Dafna). E-mail: portico@netvision.net.il

UNIQUE MUSARRA, ELISHA Street, new, spacious, 4 + balcony, elevator, parking, immediate, AMBASSADOR Tel. 02-561-8101. [20204]

BEIT HAKEREM - COTTAGE, 6, new, quiet, rental available. Tel. 02-661-1451, 050-408-743. [Brokers. 68]

HABITAT REAL ESTATE, German Colony, large, modern detached house, patio, parking. Tel. 02-561-1222 (Dafna). E-mail: portico@netvision.net.il [20341]

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KIRYAT SHMUEL, 4 + DINETTE, balconies, view of the Knesset, elevator, parking, Nahshon (next to Wolfson), 5.5, 2nd floor, balcony, Succa, view of the Knesset, parking, storage room (terrace). BEN ZVI. Tel. 02-563-0066, 052-601-944. [68]

"CENTURY 21" BARGAIN in Rehavia, Shom Ben Zvi, 5 rooms, marvelous view, 9th floor, elevator, parking. Tel. 02-678-2121. [20404]

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REHAVIA/ MICHAN-HAIR, 6 + terrace, covered parking, AMBASSADOR. Tel. 02-561-8101. [20428]

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### Jerusalem Area

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### RELIGIOUS SERVICES







## Chelsea can go top by winning at Derby

LONDON (AP) — From sixth to first in four days.

Gianluca Vialli's Chelsea could jump to the top of the English soccer league for the first time since 1989 by winning at Derby tomorrow.

Unbeaten in the Premier League since the opening day of the season, Vialli's team beat Aston Villa 2-1 on Wednesday to move up three places to third.

And with Villa not in action until Sunday and second place Manchester United facing a tough game at Tottenham, Vialli's team can make it to the top.

With Gianfranco Zola returning to form, Chelsea looked impressive against Villa and had the league leader under pressure for almost the entire second half at Stamford Bridge.

But Derby's wily manager, Jim Smith, no doubt will have some tricks up his sleeve when Chelsea's talented team of mainly overseas stars arrive at Pride Park.

Powered by the goals and mercurial skills of Costa Rican forward Paolo Wanchope, Smith's team lies 10th in the table and is capable of beating the best or losing to the worst.

With Chelsea enjoying the euphoria of beating the league leader, Manchester United are basking in the glory of reaching the last eight of the European Champions Cup.

Alex Ferguson's team achieved that with a 1-1 tie with Bayern Munich on Wednesday and, after the excitement of qualifying for the quarterfinal of Europe's premier club soccer tournament, Ferguson has to get his players focused on a trip to White Hart Lane to meet in-form Spurs.

Since George Graham took over, Tottenham have developed a steady look to the team and now look tough to beat. French star David Ginola, urged by Graham to work a little harder and put his undoubted talent to better use, is in standout form and the goals have started to flow from Chris Armstrong.

By the time Villa get to host defending titlist and fifth-place Arsenal on Sunday, Gregory's team could be down in third, having led the standings for two months.

Fourth place Leeds are not in action until Monday, when David O'Leary's team host struggling Coventry.

Although his team has climbed since he took over from Graham at Elland Road, O'Leary is playing down his own team's chances of taking the title.

"We're fourth in the league at the moment but in all honesty we're only a top eight team," said the former Arsenal and Ireland international center-back.

"When the going really gets tough later on this season the young kids, and there's six of them in the team, will get tired. That's a fact."

Seventh place Middlesbrough host West Ham, which slipped to sixth after last week's 4-0 loss at Leeds, while Liverpool had the tough task of reversing their slide to ninth when they visit eighth-place Wimbledon on Sunday.

Gerard Houllier's under fire Liverpool won't be helped by the fact that they were outplayed for the second time by Spanish club Celta Vigo on Tuesday, losing 1-0 at Anfield and tumbling from the UEFA Cup.

A the other end of the standings, Blackburn manager Brian Kidd, whose team climbed away from last in his first game in charge, hopes for another good performance at home to Newcastle.

Rovers' victory over Charlton lifted the team two places and dropped Southampton back to last. The Saints go to 15th place Everton while next-to-last Nottingham Forest visit Leicester.

Sheffield Wednesday, 14th after edging Nottingham Forest, hope to gain three more points by beating 16th place Charlton at home.

Four points clear in division one, Sunderland should profit from a home game against second from last Port Vale while second place Ipswich host mid-standings Barnsley.

Rangers and Kilmarnock, first and second in the Scottish Premier League and level on points, meet at Ibrox tomorrow.

Third place and defending titlist Celtic visit Dundee United.

## Huskies struggle past UMass

### NCAA BASKETBALL

AMHERST (AP) — Even though its high-speed offense was stuck in first gear, top-ranked Connecticut found a way to win.

Massachusetts forced the Huskies into a half-court game and held them 30 points under their average, but UConn still came away with a 59-54 road victory Wednesday night.

UMass trailed by only three points following Ajmal Basit's dunk with 2:05 left, but a basket by Richard Hamilton and two foul shots by Khalid El-Amin with 36 seconds left kept Connecticut (7-0) on top.

Lari Ketner scored 15 points and Basit added 12 points and nine rebounds for UMass (1-4), which has lost four in a row since winning its opener over Niagara. It's the Minutemen's longest losing streak since 1990.

"If we can play this hard every night, we'll be in the (NCAA) tournament with UConn," said UMass guard Charlton Clarke.

"We played with a lot of heart. Don't let the 1-4 fool you. We proved we can play with anybody tonight."

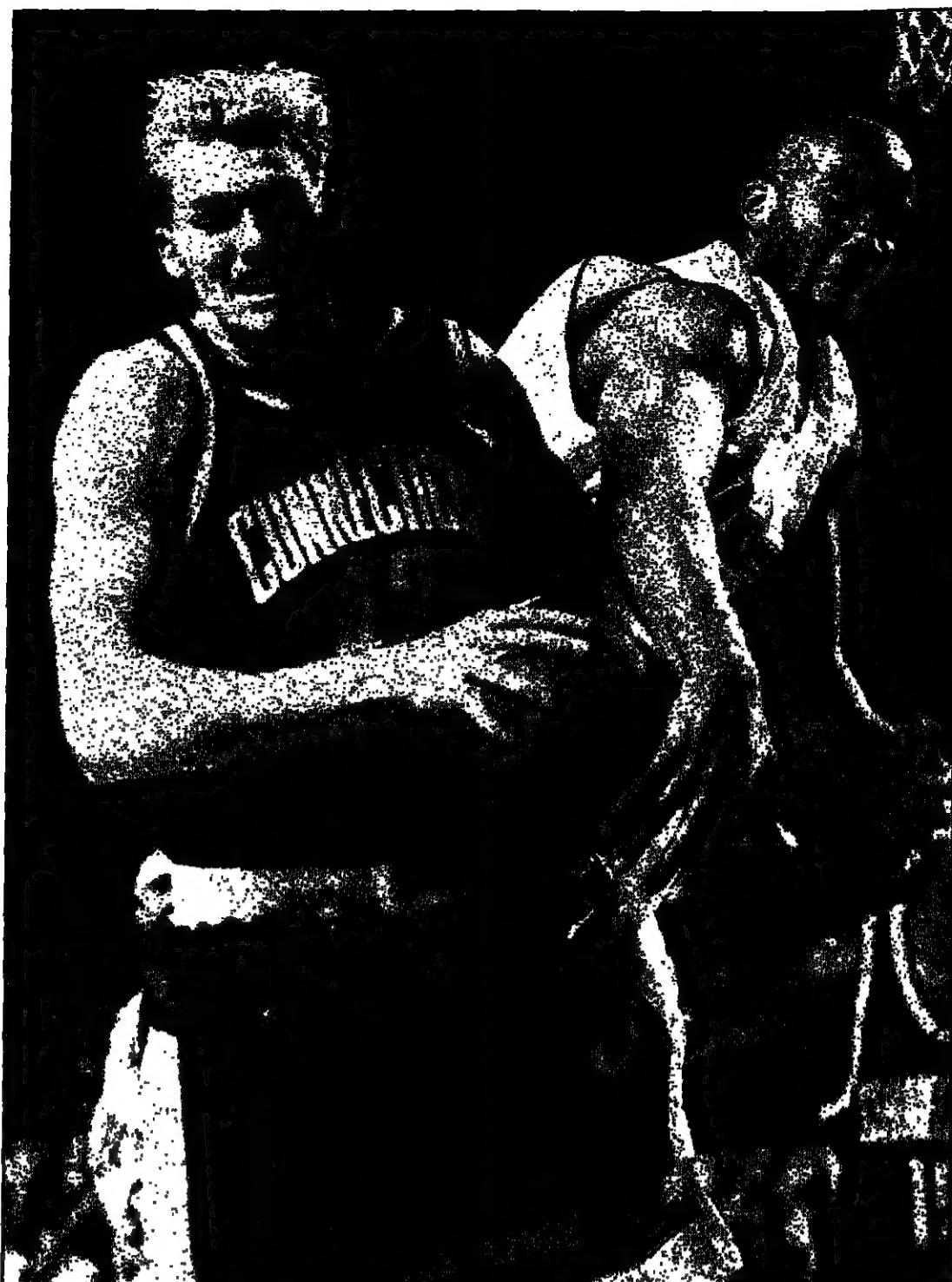
Hamilton, a preseason All-American who came in averaging 20 points, was held to 11, and Connecticut was forced to play mostly half-court basketball. But the Huskies got a boost from reserve Albert Mouring, who led them with 13 points.

No. 3 Duke 116, Florida 86

William Avery made a school-record eight 3-pointers as Duke routed the previously unbeaten visitors.

The Blue Devils (8-1) scored 63 points in the first half and went on to match the highest point total ever against Florida (5-1).

Avery, who finished with 26 points and nine assists, broke the Duke record of seven 3-pointers in a game set by Chris Collins in 1996 and tied by Trajan Langdon in 1997. The Blue Devils made a season-high 16 of 23 shots beyond the arc, including 8-for-10 by Avery.



NEW ENGLAND TUSSELE — Jake Voskuhl (1) of Connecticut competes for a rebound with Massachusetts' Ajmal Basit.

West Virginia 73  
No. 13 Syracuse 59

Elton Scott scored 19 points and reserve Brooks Berry had eight of his career-high 16 points in a key

second-half run as host West Virginia won its Big East opener.

Syracuse (7-2) lost for the second time in five days.

West Virginia (4-3), which

trailed 32-30 at halftime, used a stifling zone defense early in the second half to hold the Orangemen scoreless for seven minutes.

Wisconsin 63  
No. 16 Temple 56

Visiting Wisconsin made 13 3-pointers to hand Temple its fourth straight loss.

The Owls (4-4) lost four in a row for the first time since the 1992-93 season and only the third time in the John Chaney era. The Owls lost five straight and finished 14-15 in 1982-83, Chaney's first season.

Sean Mason scored 14 points and Ty Caldwell had 13 points for the Badgers (8-1), who were 13-for-21 from long range.

No. 18 St. John's 73  
No. 20 Pittsburgh 52

Bootsy Thornton scored a career-high 23 points, including 15 in a 21-6 run that helped St. John's beat Pittsburgh at Alumni Hall.

The Red Storm (7-2, 2-0 Big East) won their fourth straight since losing consecutive games to Stanford and Purdue. Pittsburgh (7-3, 0-1) has lost three of its last four, with all the losses against ranked teams.

Ron Artest added 15 points on 7-of-11 shooting for St. John's, while Tyrone Grant had 10 points and 11 rebounds.

No. 25 Utah 87, Weber St. 74

Andre Miller scored 19 points and became Utah's career leader in steals.

Miller had six points and an assist during a 15-4 run midway through the second half that blew open a close game. He got his 92nd career steal early in the second half to pass Josh Grant on Utah's list.

Hanno Mottola scored 17 points and Alex Jensen had 15 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for Utah (5-3). Harold Arceneaux led visiting Weber State (4-3) with 23 points.

### College Basketball Top 25

How the top 25 teams in The AP's poll fared Wednesday

1. Connecticut (7-0) beat Massachusetts 59-54.
2. Maryland (10-0) did not play.
3. Duke (8-1) beat Florida 116-86.
4. Cincinnati (5-0) did not play.
5. Kentucky (8-1) did not play.
6. Stanford (8-2) did not play.
7. North Carolina (9-1) did not play.
8. Arizona (4-0) did not play.
9. Purdue (8-1) did not play.
10. Kansas (5-2) did not play.
11. Indiana (8-2) did not play.
12. New Mexico (5-0) did not play.
13. Syracuse (7-2) lost to West Virginia 73-55.
14. Michigan State (4-3) did not play.
15. UCLA (4-2) did not play.
16. Temple (4-4) lost to Wisconsin 63-56.
17. Clemson (7-2) did not play.
18. St. John's (7-2) beat No. 20 Pittsburgh 73-52.
19. Oklahoma State (4-2) did not play.
20. Pittsburgh (7-3) lost to No. 18 St. John's 73-52.
21. Minnesota (5-2) did not play.
22. Washington (4-3) did not play.
23. Arkansas (6-3) did not play.
24. Minnesota (5-0) did not play.
25. Utah (5-3) beat Weber State 87-74.

## Whitney's goal lifts Panthers; Avalanche stop Rangers

SUNRISE, Fla. (AP) — Ray Whitney scored Florida's fifth power-play goal of the game, breaking a tie with 5:29 left Wednesday night and giving the Florida Panthers a 6-5 victory over the Ottawa Senators.

Avalanche 2, Rangers 1

Joe Sakic and Peter Forsberg scored within a 98-second span of the third period, lifting Colorado to a road win.

The Avalanche, who had trailed since the 1:29 mark of the second period when Mathieu Schneider scored for New York, won their fifth straight while stopping a five-game win streak for the Rangers.

Stars 3, Sharks 3

Darryl Sydor had a goal and two

assists to help host Dallas rally from a two-goal, first-period deficit for a tie.

Blackhawks 3, Oilers 1

Eric Daze scored two goals and Jocelyn Thibault made 24 saves, allowing just a fluke score that deflected off a teammate as Chicago won at home.

The victory was the fourth in five games for the Blackhawks.

Kings 2, Capitals 1

Stephane Fiset made 32 saves

for his first victory in more than a month and host Los Angeles snapped a five-game losing streak.

Mighty Ducks 4, Canucks 4

Defenseman Bret Hedican's shorthanded goal with 10:53 left in the third period lifted visiting Vancouver into a tie.

Hedican's score, which came on a 2-on-1 breakaway with center Mark Messier, completed the

Canucks' rally from a 4-2 deficit in the second period.

Coyotes 4, Canadiens 2

Jeremy Roenick and Keith Tkachuk each had a goal and an assist and Mike Sullivan scored a short-handed goal in the second period as Phoenix secured a home win.

Rick Tocchet also scored for the Coyotes.

## Orioles feeling 'Ripped Off'

BALTIMORE (AP) — Former Orioles manager Phil Regan gave his daughter a prized piece of baseball history — the original lineup card from Cal Ripken Jr.'s record-breaking game in 1995 — and she decided to sell it at auction.

Now the Orioles say the card, which is valued at \$35,000, belongs to them, and they have gone to court to try and prevent the sale.

The team obtained a temporary court order blocking Regan's daughter from selling the lineup card and a pen used in filling it out from the night Ripken broke Lou Gehrig's record for consecutive games played.

Canseco signs with Devil Rays

Jose Canseco, 34, agreed to terms Wednesday with the second-year Devil Rays club, filling the need for a right-handed batter capable of taking advantage of hitter-friendly Tropicana Field.

The Devil Rays hit a major league-low 111 homers during their inaugural season, while Canseco hit a career-high 46 for the Toronto Blue Jays.

Eckersley retires

Dennis Eckersley, third on the career saves list, retired yesterday after 24 years.

Eckersley, 44, said he decided to retire after the Boston Red Sox did not offer him the option of salary arbitration.

The right-handed relief pitcher, who spent seven years with Boston before moving on to the Chicago Cubs, Oakland Athletics and St. Louis Cardinals, had returned to the team last December intending to finish his career in Boston.

Eckersley, a six-time All-Star won the 1992 AL Cy Young Award. He has 390 saves, trailing only Lee Smith (478) and John Franco (397).

## SCANDAL

Continued from Page 24

The Ashes tour, the big confrontation between Britain and Australia, is now on, and the third Test in the series begins Friday in Adelaide.

The Australian team has bested Britain for years, but this scandal turned two of the top Aussie players from "heroes into zeros overnight" in the eyes of most people.

Australian Broadcasting Corp. said.

The prime minister, an avid cricket fan, was stunned by the disclosures. "I would imagine that, given the great passion that Australians have for cricket, there's an intense feeling of disappointment about the whole issue," Howard said.

"Australians love their cricket

and anything that looks as though it's knocking cricket off its pedestal is something that's going to deeply disturb Australians," he said, with considerable understatement.

The Australian's headline read: "The Bookie Scandal — 11,000 Dollars: Price of Disgrace," referring to the dollar payments the bookie gave Warner and Waugh during the 1994 tour of Sri Lanka.

Both players admitted they were "naive and stupid" at a news conference Wednesday, then denied they had ever taken a bribe or thrown a match and walked out without answering questions.

"Ashamed — And So You Bloody Well Should Be!" read the headline in the tabloid Daily Telegraph of Sydney yesterday. Its editorial was headlined, "Wounding the soul of a nation."

In the nation's Parliament, opposition senators said they could consider staging an inquiry next year if they were dissatisfied with the Australian Cricket Board's handling of the Mark Waugh/Shane Warne saga.

"If there's still an inadequate response, it may be appropriate for the Parliament to have a look at it," Australian Democrats sports spokesman Andrew Bartlett said.

"I believe this may be cricket's biggest crisis since 1817," wrote Matthew Engel, editor of Wisden Cricketers' Almanack, considered the "Bible" of cricket, in an essay in the Herald.

## Aussies, England recall spinners for Adelaide

ADELAIDE (AP) — Australia, reeling from the bookmaking scandal involving Mark Waugh and Shane Warne, will be battling to keep the momentum going in their third cricket Test which takes place at Adelaide beginning today.

The momentum is definitely with us and we will have to put the last 48 hours behind us and play some good cricket," skipper Mark Taylor said yesterday.

Taylor said the scandal had come at a crucial time and it was hard to stay focused in the middle of an important series.

He added that he had spoken with Sir Donald Bradman who had encouraged the Australia side to persevere, even though disappointment was rife.

Both teams have called up key spinners to make use of another spinner-friendly Adelaide Oval pitch. Leg spinner Stuart MacGill and off spinner Robert Croft missed the second Test in Perth as both teams went in with pace.

England, down 1-0 in the five-match series, must win to have any realistic chance of taking home the Ashes.

After all-rounder Dominic Cork

was ruled out, with the flu, team manager Graham Gooch chose spinner Peter Such.

Croft, the senior spinner of the pair, will return at the expense of batsmen John Crawley or Mark Ramprakash. The in-form Dean Headley will then come in for Cork.

After describing the sparsely grassed pitch as "typical Adelaide," Taylor said his side will also consider playing a second slow bowler.

If that happens, fast bowler Jason Gillespie, who led Australia to a seven-wicket win with a match haul of seven wickets in Perth, will carry the drinks while utility bowler Colin Miller retains his place.

Wicketkeeper Ian Healy, who suffered a sprained thigh muscle, passed a fitness Test Thursday and Taylor says Healy will play.

England's choice of Such sprung a major surprise, since he has not played in a Test since 1994 and has appeared in just one match on England's current tour of Australia.

"The management have always said 'be ready to play' and the backroom staff have kept us

going really well." Such said.

"I'm in an enviable position and just want to go out and give it my best shot."

Such took eight wickets on his Test debut against Australia at Old Trafford in 1993, including six for 67 in the first innings, the best return at that time by an England debutant since John Lever's seven for 46 at Delhi in 1976-77.

The 34-year-old Essex slow bowler, who has since played only eight Tests, came to Australia as the second choice spinner behind Robert Croft but his only tour game has been against South Australia.

AUSTRALIA: Mark Taylor (captain), Michael Slater, Justin Langer, Mark Waugh, Steve Waugh, Ricky Ponting, Ian Healy, Damien Fleming, Colin Miller or Jason Gillespie, Stuart MacGill, Glenn McGrath.

ENGLAND: Mike Atherton, Mark Butcher, Nasser Hussain, Alec Stewart (captain), Mark Ramprakash, John Crawley, Graeme Hick, Robert Croft, Dean Headley, Alex Tudor, Darren Gough, Allan Mullally and Peter Such.

## Boxer Archie Moore dies at 84

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Archie Moore, the light heavyweight champion who set the record for knockouts during his 27-year career and the only boxer to fight Marciano and Ali, died Wednesday four days before his 85th birthday.

Moore had undergone heart surgery a few years ago and his health had deteriorated in the past two weeks.

He retired at 49 in 1963 after a career considered one of the most amazing examples of longevity in sports.

He held the light heavyweight title for 11 of the 27 years he was in the ring, knocking out 141 opponents in 228 bouts, according to the Boxing Record Book. Other sources list his knockout total at 145, while others say it was 129.

Moore, whose real name was Archibald Lee Wright, was born in Benoit, Mississippi on December 13, 1913. He won his first professional fight 23 years later, with a decision over Murray Allen in Quincy, Illinois.

He won the light heavyweight title in 1952 at age 39 with a victory over Joey Maxim.

He successfully defended it nine times, but along the way lost to

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in yesterday's Mifal Hapais daily chance drawing

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## Inside

## UConn wins battle of New England

Page 23

Sports Editors  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

## Walsh passes Botham

PORT ELIZABETH (AP) — Courtney Walsh passed Ian Botham for third place on Test cricket's all-time wicket list, but a late rally spoiled the West Indies chances of bowling out South Africa yesterday, the first day of their second Test.

Par Symcox and Allan Donald remained at the wicket with an unbeaten ninth-wicket stand of 48 that rescued South Africa from 175 for eight just before tea to 223, when fading light forced stumps to be drawn at St. George's Park.

Earlier, Walsh moved past Botham by taking three wickets before lunch. Walsh's trio gave him 385 for his career, two more than the legendary English all-rounder who retired in 1992.

## Presidents Cup pairings

The pairings for today's opening matches of Presidents Cup tournaments (alternate stroke) at the par-72, 6,981-yard Royal Melbourne Golf Club:

Mark O'Meara and David Duval, US vs. Frank Nobilo and Greg Turner, NZ  
Jim Furyk and John Huston, US vs. Greg Norman and Steve Elkington, Aus.  
Lee Jansen and Scott Hoch, US vs. Shigeki Maruyama and Craig Parry, Jpn.  
Tiger Woods and Fred Couples, US vs. Ernie Els and Vijay Singh, Ind.  
Davis Love III and Justin Leonard, US vs. Stuart Appleby and Nick Price, Aus.



KEEPING PACE — England pace bowler Alex Tudor warms up for the third Ashes Test, which starts today. Story, Page 23.

## 'From heroes to zeroes'

Australian society rocked by cricket scandal

SYDNEY (AP) — The prime minister suddenly appeared on nationwide television, standing somberly in front of an Australian flag, to say "something that's going to deeply disturb Australians."

Though John Howard's demeanor was solemn enough for an announcement of the death of the Queen, he spoke of something far deeper and more dear to Aussies than Her Majesty — the scandal engulfing Australian cricket.

Newspapers, broadcasters and Australians in

the street were incandescent with rage Thursday that top cricketers Shane Warne and Mark Waugh took money from an Indian bookie in 1994 for weather and playing field tips.

The aspect that enraged most people even more though, was that the Australian Cricket Board kept the matter secret until this week — a case of Cricket-gate.

"The Australian Cricket Board is guilty of hypocrisy in its attitude to cricket's gambling problem. The board has pressed for an inquiry into allegations of match-fixing in Pakistan

while engaging in a concerted cover-up of its own betting scandal," The Australian national newspaper said in a front-page editorial.

"Australia Mourns as the Game Falls from its Pedestal," cried the Sydney Morning Herald's headline yesterday.

Cricket is deeply ingrained in Australia's consciousness, with the nation measuring itself against Britain, the mother country, on the cricket green.

See SCANDAL, Page 23

## Maccabi's second-half rally sinks Red Star

By ELI GRONER

No Katash? No problem. Playing with a depleted roster which included the absence of star guard Oded Katash, Maccabi Tel Aviv used a second-half surge to blow by Red Star Belgrade, 78-59, at Yad Eliahu last night.

The win kept the Maccabi hoopers ensconced in third place in Group B of the EuroLeague, and only a loss by at least 17 points in Zagreb next week will drop Maccabi to the fourth spot.

Maccabi's manpower problems forced coach Pini Gershon to deploy a tentative defense throughout the first half. But in the second half, Maccabi played aggressively, and closed the game with a 29-10 run over the final 11 minutes to secure the victory.

"I told the players to save their fouls for the second half," said Gershon. "In the second half, we showed just how well we're capable of playing."

Guy Goodes was integral over that final stretch. Goodes — who was on the court for those important minutes because of Katash's (leg injury) and Zdravko Radulovic's (ineligible until the EuroLeague's second round) absences, grabbed the opportunity to shine, scoring 15 of his 17 points over the final 13 minutes.

Goodes buried two of his patented long-range 3's over that stretch, but even more importantly, showed an offensive aggressiveness that has been lacking all season. After reaching the free-throw line only once this entire EuroLeague campaign, Goodes went 7-for-8 from the charity stripe last night.

"There's no question that this was my best game this season,"

said Goodes. "I just took advantage of the opportunity I was given."

Another key to the late-game run was the defensive job done by Victor Alexander and Constantin Popa. On Jovo Stanojevic: After scoring 17 points in the first half, Stanojevic was held by Maccabi's big men to only three in the second stanza, on his way to a game-high 20 points.

The defensive number done on Stanojevic, coupled with Nadav Henefeld's white-out of Yugoslavian national-teamer Mileko Topic (six points), forced Red Star to take numerous difficult shots.

Doron Sheffer, the lone Israeli chosen for the All-Star game in Berlin on December 29, had a solid second-half as well, en route to a 17-point performance. Gur Shelef added 15 for the victors.

Before Maccabi got aggressive, it was a much different game. The Yugoslavs — knowing that Maccabi couldn't afford to foul — set the tone the entire first half, played a patient, ball-control offense, and held the lead for most of the half. In fact, Maccabi only grabbed the lead for good on two Goodes free throws which made the score 53-51 with 10 minutes remaining.

In other Group B action last night, Panathinaikos played Manresa. On Wednesday, Cibona Zagreb beat Efes Pilsen 76-70.

EuroLeague Group B				
Rank	Team	P	W	L
1	Panathinaikos	10	7	3
2	Maccabi Tel Aviv	9	4	5
3	Cibona Zagreb	9	3	6
4	Manresa	8	3	5
5	Red Star Belgrade	9	1	8

## Soccer twin bill set to fill Ramat Gan

By DEREK FATTAL

Around 40,000 soccer-crazed fans are expected to pack the National Stadium in Ramat Gan tomorrow afternoon for an intriguing double bill that pitches league leaders Hapoel Haifa against hosts Maccabi Tel Aviv, and Bnei Yehuda against Betar Jerusalem in the 12th round of play.

With close to 30,000 tickets already sold the event promises to be a sellout, set to generate proceeds in excess of NIS 1.5 million.

The Haifaites will be faced by an intensely hostile arena tomorrow as the majority of supporters will be rooting for Hapoel's demise at the hands of a rapidly-improving Maccabi Tel Aviv side. The team has transformed itself from the National League's joke outfit into a force to be reckoned with thanks to six-straight victories.

Even so, that run pales along-

side Hapoel's 10-match winning streak and its tally of 31 from a potential 33 points this campaign. Betar Jerusalem are the favorites in the first fixture against the Haikva Quarter side, which kicks off at 14.45, but must put last week's result firmly behind them.

Second-place Hapoel Petah Tikva trek south to meet Ironi Ashdod and the money is on Giora Spiegel's men to take all three points, despite being without first-choice goalkeeper Shai Bess who is nursing an injury.

Maccabi Haifa should have a relatively easy outing against Zefirum Holon at Kiryat Eliezer. Hapoel Tel Aviv will be aiming to bounce back away to Hapoel Jerusalem at Teddy Stadium.

National League fixtures (kick off 14.30 unless otherwise stated): Bnei Yehuda v. Betar Jerusalem, National Stadium Ramat Gan, 14.45; Maccabi Tel Aviv v. Hapoel Haifa, National Stadium Ramat Gan, 17.20; Ironi Ashdod v. Hapoel Petah Tikva, 15.00; Ironi Rishon LeZion v. Maccabi Herzliya, Maccabi Haifa v. Zefirum Holon, Kiryat Eliezer, 16.00; Hapoel Jerusalem v. Hapoel Tel Aviv, Teddy Stadium; Maccabi Petah Tikva v. Maccabi Jaffa; Hapoel Kfar Sava v. Hapoel Bet Shean, today, 14.00.

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**Amana Miele**

National League				
Rank	Team	P	W	L
1	Hapoel Haifa	11	10	1
2	Hapoel Petah Tikva	11	8	3
3	Maccabi Haifa	11	7	4
4	Maccabi Tel Aviv	11	6	5
5	Betar Jerusalem	11	6	5
6	Hapoel Tel Aviv	11	6	5
7	Mac Petah Tikva	11	4	7
8	Hapoel Jerusalem	11	5	6
9	Zefirum Holon	11	4	7
10	Hapoel Kfar Sava	11	4	7
11	Ironi Ashdod	11	3	8
12	Ironi Rishon	11	3	8
13	Bnei Yehuda	11	3	8
14	Maccabi Herzliya	11	3	8
15	Maccabi Jaffa	11	1	10
16	Hapoel Bet Shean	11	1	10

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**Blue in Your Eye events:** Tuesday (second candle of Hanukkah, Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Wednesday (third candle), Dec. 16 (10 a.m.-6 p.m.); Thursday (fourth candle), Dec. 17, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday (fifth candle), Dec. 18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Saturday (sixth candle), Dec. 19, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday (seventh candle), Dec. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Monday (eighth candle), Dec. 21, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

The Dining Centre and exhibition was created through the generosity of Sir Harry Djanogly of London. A project of the Jerusalem Foundation.

**Bloomfield Science Museum Jerusalem**

Founded by the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Jerusalem Foundation. Activities supported by the Jerusalem Municipality, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, Ministry of Science and the Jerusalem Foundation

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